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1961



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1961

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GATESHEAD

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Public Health Department


FOR YEAR 1961

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JAMES GRANT, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
(GLASGOW)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G. CHARLTON, CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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# HEALTH COMMITTEE

as at 31st December, 1961

Chairman : ALDERMAN P. S. HANCOCK, O.B.E.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR W. COLLINS

THE MAYOR	COUN. J. D. HUGHES
ALD. W. F. BARRON	„ J. W. FORSTER
„ A. CROSSLEY	„ MRS. A. E. JEWITT
„ J. T. ETHERINGTON	„ MRS. J. H. LISTER
„ M. GRANT	„ MRS. E. C. A. LUMSDEN
„ MRS. E. A. HARDY	„ J. MURRAY
„ J. A. HUTCHISON	„ C. REED
„ W. J. PIKE	„ C. RYANS
„ J. W. ROBERTS	„ A. V. TURNBULL
„ B. N. YOUNG	„ J. W. WATSON
COUN. MRS. M. BELL	„ J. C. S. WHEATLEY
„ L. CARR	„ G. W. WILDE
„ J. FITZPATRICK	„ F. WIND
„ W. HARLAND	„ F. C. E. WOOD

## *Representatives of Outside Bodies*

DR. J. C. ARTHUR

MR. C. G. C. SIMMONS

## SUB-COMMITTEES

### *Maternity and Child Welfare*

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. HUTCHISON
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ YOUNG
ALD. BARRON	COUN. MRS. BELL
„ ETHERINGTON	„ HARLAND
„ MRS. HARDY	„ MRS. JEWITT

### *Co-opted Members*

MRS. J. BLACKBURN  
Mrs. H. JONES

MRS. L. M. MORRIS  
Mrs. H. M. STOREY

MRS. L. PATTISON

### *Invalid Care and After-Care*

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. MRS. HARDY
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ HUTCHISON
ALD. BARRON	COUN. MRS. BELL
„ CROSSLEY	„ HARLAND
„ ETHERINGTON	„ MRS. JEWITT

### *Representative of the Council of Social Service*

MR. J. R. CHAMBERS

### *Other Members*

MISS H. BROTHERTON  
(vacancy)

### *Mental Welfare*

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. MRS. HARDY
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ HUTCHISON
ALD. BARRON	„ YOUNG
„ CROSSLEY	COUN. MRS. BELL
„ ETHERINGTON	„ HARLAND

COUN. Mrs. JEWITT

### *General Purposes and Insanitary Property*

THE CHAIRMAN	ALD. HUTCHISON
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN	„ YOUNG
ALD. BARRON	COUN. MRS. BELL
„ CROSSLEY	„ HARLAND
„ ETHERINGTON	„ MRS. JEWITT
„ MRS. HARDY	„ RYANS

COUN. J. C. S. WHEATLEY



## 1. STAFF OF LOCAL AUTHORITY

*\*Medical Officer of Health, Principal School Medical Officer and Medical Superintendent, Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital — JAMES GRANT, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.*

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Senior School Medical Officer — JEAN M. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H., LL.B.*

*Assistant Medical Officers of Health and School Medical Officers — MARY J. DANSKIN, M.B., B.S., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. (resigned 28.2.61), TERENCE W. L. KNAGGS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (resigned 31.1.61), FLORENCE CADOGAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (resigned 9.9.61), HUBERT C. WEIR, M.A., M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H., WILLIAM R. MCKENZIE, L.R.F.P.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., D.P.H., D.C.H. (commenced 1.8.61), MARION HARRISON, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. (commenced 15.11.61).*

*Chief Dental Officer — JOSEPH WHITEHOUSE, L.D.S.*

*Dental Officers — MRS. I. F. JONES, L.D.S., MISS TERESA M. ROSSI, B.D.S., MR. RONALD AARON, L.D.S., MR. JONATHAN D. RIMER, B.D.S. (resigned 28.10.61)*

*Dental Surgery Assistants — MISS M. CESSFORD, MISS S. P. THOMPSON, MRS. E. DANBY, MRS. H. TYRRELL, MRS. M. B. TIERNEY (resigned 27.7.61), MISS J. VINCENT (resigned 23.12.61).*

*Dental Technicians — T. W. CURTIS, J. GILHOME.*

*Orthoptist — MRS. E. P. GRABHAM (resigned 25.5.61).*

*Physiotherapist (part-time) — MRS. J. M. PICKARD, M.C.S.P., O.H.C., H.T. (resigned 6.4.61), MRS. M. ROSE, M.C.S.P. (commenced 17.4.61).*

*Health Visitors and School Nurses — C. ROBSON (Supt.) (retired 2.10.61), I. BRADLEY (Appointed Supt. as from 3.10.61), M. DAGLISH (appointed Senior H.V. 1.11.61), D. C. JOHNSON (appointed Senior H.V. 1.11.61), E. WISE, M. CRAGGS, J. TURNBULL, S. W. ATKINSON, A. MULLEN, R. GARDNER, S. GILLEY, N. M. BELL, E. BAXTER, M. FAIRS, M. MCMANEMY, M. B. MAIN, M. MORRELL, D. E. GIBSON, F. THORNE, J. T. LAMOND, J. ALLINSON (resigned 9.12.61), C. ROSS, E. J. ALLEN.*

*Student Health Visitor (commenced training October, 1961) — A. BARTLEY.*

*Nursing Assistants — M. COATES, W. CRAIG, P. M. JACKSON.*

*Tuberculosis Nurses — E. FRY, J. HEATLEY.*

*Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives — M. BOLAM.*

*Municipal Midwives — D. E. BELL, S. POOLE, M. DOBSON, E. DOUGLAS, E. TORRINGTON, A. W. HAVERY, J. WOOD (nee Taylor) (commenced 1.9.61), M. A. ESTHER, J. CLACHERTY, B. MENHAMS (commenced 13.3.61).*

*Matron of Day Nursery — L. DONNELLY.*

*Supervisor of Domestic Helps — MRS. S. MAITLAND.*

*Assistant Supervisor — MRS. J. McDONAGH.*

*Mental Welfare Officers — MISS A. OGDEN, L. M. GRAY, W. H. WINSHIP.*

*Junior Training Centre—Supervisor — MISS M. N. McDERMOTT (to 22.4.61), MRS. M. E. D. MOORE (appointed as from 22.4.61).*

*Assistant Supervisors — MRS. M. TAYLOR, MISS D. CUTHBERTSON, MRS. P. COUTT, MRS. J. M. TAYLOR (commenced 12.6.61).*

*Adult Training Centre—Supervisor — MR. F. J. HERDMAN (commenced 16.1.61).*

*Assistant Supervisors* — MR. A. M. FORSTER (commenced 29.5.61), MR. C. A. MARR (commenced 18.12.61).

*Clerical Staff* — N. CRAIG, R. A. SUTTON, J. A. JEFFERSON, MISS P. NEILSON, MISS E. JONES (resigned 21.1.61), MISS M. ATKINSON, MRS. M. WATSON, MRS. A. SMITH, MISS N. SCOTT, MRS. H. SCOTT, R. W. E. BRATTON, S. RENFORTH, MRS. M. H. GALLAGHER, MRS. D. BERTRAM, R. MCPHAIL (resigned 21.10.61), MISS K. M. FALKENBERG, T. PICKERING (commenced 20.11.61), MRS. E. L. HURST (as from 17.4.61).

*Welfare Foods Distributors* — MRS. J. NOBLE (resigned 13.5.61), MISS E. A. HUNTER, MRS. E. L. HURST (to 16.4.61), MRS. D. ALDERDICE (commenced 10.4.61), MRS. S. JOHNSON (commenced 15.5.61).

*Ambulance Officer* — J. W. NESBIT (retired 8.11.61), H. D. FLETCHER (appointed as from 9.11.61).

*Deputy Ambulance Officer* — H. D. FLETCHER (to 8.11.61), MR. C. SMITH (appointed as from 9.11.61).

*Caretakers*— *Greenesfield Health Centre* — W. A. ROBB.

*Wrekenton Health Centre* — J. T. DALTON (commenced 16.4.61).

\* *Continuing to serve part-time in the Local Hospital Service.*

## 2. STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S DEPARTMENT

*Chief Public Health Inspector and Inspector for the Diseases of Animals Act* — G. CHARLTON\*†

*Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Senior Housing Inspector* — G. T. NEILSON\*†

*Factories and Smoke Inspectors* — J. HIGGINS\*† T. J. WESTGARTH\*†

*Food and Drugs Inspector* — F. W. WILKINSON\*† (resigned 30.9.61). E. MCGARR\*†

*Senior District Inspectors* — S. WALKER\*† W. M. ALDER\*† (appointed Senior District Inspector 1.11.61).

*District Inspectors* — S. HILL\*† R. BEST\* (resigned 22.10.61).

*Assistant Housing Inspector (temporary, part-time)* — J. J. NIXON\*

Two vacancies unfilled during the year and a further two vacancies created.

\* *Public Health Inspector's Certificate*

† *Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate*

*Public Analyst* — W. GORDON CAREY.

*Clerical Staff* — M. GRAY, MRS. E. SUTTON, J. DOUGLAS.

*Disinfector* — J. FREEMAN.

*Rodent Operators* — J. BAINBRIDGE, B. COCKBURN.

## 3. STAFF SHARED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY AND THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

*Chest Physicians* — S. D. ROWLANDS, M.D., B.S., B.HY., D.P.H., E. L. FEINMANN, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P., K. M. MARTISCHNIG, M.D., M.B., B.S.

#### 4. HOSPITAL STAFF GIVING SERVICE AT LOCAL AUTHORITY CLINICS

*Ophthalmic Surgeons* — J. S. ARKLE, F.R.C.S.

*Orthopaedic Surgeon* — A. E. BREMNER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.

*Remedial Gymnast* — T. MIDGLEY, M.S.R.G.

*Clerks (Chest Clinic)* — B. ARMATAGE, MISS W. O'KANE.



*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County Borough of Gateshead.*

I have the honour to present my statutory report for 1961 on the health of Gateshead and the work of the health department. The report is my 26th and the 81st of the series.

The year under review was notable statistically for the census enumeration of the population of Gateshead as 103,000, a figure much below recent estimates of the Registrar General. In its fall from 115,039 in 1951, there is a measure of the great leakage or overflow of population into the adjoining districts of Felling and Whickham, both of which are included, with parts of Blaydon and Ryton, to form the recommended 'new borough' of Gateshead, delineated in the report of the Local Government Boundary Commission. The Commission has broadly supported the view of Gateshead Council that there should be four almost autonomous administrative areas covering the populous areas of Tyneside, these being joined together under the new county council of Tyneside. The administrative areas, mainly extensions of the existing county boroughs are to take the form of 'boroughs' without this status, but with county borough powers for all local services, except police, ambulance and planning.

In this plan, the powers of the council of Gateshead will be virtually unchanged in matters of health, but this responsibility will extend to a population little short of 200,000. For such an extended borough there will clearly be great developments of the local services. As far as health is concerned this will mean several new municipal health centres adjacent to the dwellings of the mothers and children who will use them. The local authority already has built the prototypes for these purposes in the Carr Hill and Wrekenton Health Centres, which provide for school medical, child welfare and allied functions in the respective areas of new housing development. In such an expansion it is suggested that the planning of the municipal health centres so required should be restricted to the erection of small buildings perhaps only in a rudimentary form at first so as to provide for clinic sessions only but capable of expansion at a later date in accordance with local needs and developments. Thus it is felt that dental services need not necessarily be provided in every centre.

It would appear to be a good policy to encourage local practitioners to make use of these newly constructed centres by arrangement with the Council as surgeries for the attendance of their own patients, who after all would be ratepayers in the Borough. This idea is to be given a trial in the new Wrekenton Health Centre, where two medical firms of practitioners have agreed to co-operate in the project. It is only in this way that real co-operation will be established between the general practitioner and the personnel of the local authority services.

So far as the vital statistics of 1961 are concerned, some disappointment must be expressed at the continued high level of the infantile mortality rate in comparison with that of surrounding areas. Every effort has been made to provide the appropriate ante-natal and obstetric care and



improvements are under way, so that a reduction in the perinatal and neonatal mortality may be brought about, for it is in this phase that the mortality is still too high. The continued low mortality from the infectious diseases and from tuberculosis must give great satisfaction to the local authority which has a long history of warfare against these scourges. Regrettably, the direct prevention of cancer mortality and of deaths arising from diseases of the heart and circulation is not a specific duty of the local authority, although such measures as the prevention of atmospheric pollution and health education in regard to cigarette smoking represent an indirect effort to remove reputed causes of lung disease. As long as medical officers of health have no knowledge of the persons affected by the diseases mentioned, it is not possible for the public health service to work out their epidemiology or ascertain the contributory factors. Such a task must remain with the hospital service, which is not yet organised for the purpose. The help of the local authority services will certainly be required.

The appearance of Gateshead continues to change as the clearance of slums continues under the aegis of the Health Committee. There can be little doubt that the replacement of insanitary housing is one of the most valuable activities of the municipal services, and truly one in accordance with the highest ideals of preventive medicine. Since 1956, great progress has been made, although there is always a delay between the actual representation of a clearance area and the official approval by the responsible Minister, no matter whether it be purely a clearance or accompanied by compulsory purchase. If one adds to the two years usually required from representation to the verdict of the Minister, the time required to inspect the area beforehand, at least two and a half years must elapse, and the clearance itself, assuming that houses are available for the displaced persons, may occupy more than six months. In these circumstances, Gateshead has nothing to be ashamed of in the great progress made in the last five or six years, whereby at the end of 1961 no fewer than 1,799 houses had been cleared or were under process of clearance as unfit for human habitation. 700 other houses had been the subject of representation for clearance and were awaiting enquiry or confirmation by the Minister, and when this has been received no fewer than 2,500 houses will have been dealt with under the Housing Acts since 1956. The progress of slum clearance on the existing approved programme involves at least 1,700 other dwellings known to be unfit for habitation, to which will require to be added a further number, possibly 2,000, which have deteriorated into serious disrepair since the original housing survey was made in 1952. The whole process of slum clearance and rehousing in Gateshead has become a circuitous matter, whereby the new houses awaited have to be erected on sites which must first be cleared of their slums. This orderly progress from clearance to rehousing appears to be the only procedure possible in the Borough at present. If, however, the area of the new Borough includes suitable land in Felling, Wickham and Blaydon, there would arise the possibility of building large housing estates in advance of the slum clearance activity. It is understood that in the added areas insanitary housing is not at present a problem, and therefore is not likely to throw any additional burden on the resources of the projected Gateshead authority.

In the field of mental welfare, some of the new legal provisions continue to be regarded with misgiving. Attention is directed in the appropriate part of this report to the possibility of young subnormal females entering the state of matrimony, often with spouses of an equally low mentaility, to set up a household and family which will ultimately become a matter of grave social concern. The law has fixed the age of consent for a girl as 16 years and forbids girls of normal mentality to marry without the consent of the parents until they have reached the age of 21 years. Yet, at present a subnormal girl of 18 years with a mental age of 8 or 9 years can enter into a matrimonial contract with all that this implies although she is completely unable to comprehend the nature of her new sphere or to carry out the duties and responsibilities which it will entail.

I must again conclude by paying a tribute to the work of the professional, technical and clerical members of the staff, who have valiantly supported the council in providing important social services to a community that is not always appreciative. I would like to mention, in this connection, my deputy, Dr. J. M. Bainbridge, the assistant medical officers, the chief dental officer, Mr. Whitehouse and the chief public health inspector, Mr. George Charlton, Mr. George Neilson, his deputy, and the inspectorial staff. The secretarial work of the typists and clerical workers in the department must also be acknowledged.

Thanks are also due to the Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman P. S. Hancock, the Vice-Chairman, Councillor W. Collins and to the members of the Health Committee, who have supported the work of this department throughout the year. Our many colleagues in other departments have also given every help and encouragement to our efforts.

Your obedient Servant,

JAMES GRANT,

*Medical Officer of Health*



## PART I

### NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

#### A. General Remarks

In 1961 the clearance and redevelopment of the central area of the town adjoining the main through roads in the proximity of the river and bridges proceeded with an increasing momentum. The whole process is a valuable example of making slum clearance, rehousing and town planning a co-ordinated function, which was easy to achieve in an old industrial town like Gateshead where the earliest developments were necessarily close to the river and the bridges linking the north and south bank. It would probably be no exaggeration to say that in appearance Gateshead is the most improved town in the north-east of England, and the end of this phase is still a long way off.

Mixed in with the planning and redevelopment of the town has been the by-passing of through traffic clear of the main shopping and business areas, a process that has led to the need for appropriate changes in Newcastle, where the narrow roads are quite insufficient to handle the local passenger and goods traffic as well as the through traffic proceeding north and south.

One feature of the present age is the development of the Team Valley Trading Estate, which continues to flourish as additional factories fill up the large vacant sites to give employment to workers of both sexes drawn not only from Gateshead but from the surrounding area including Newcastle. It is rather a peculiar feature of the town that perhaps the most airy and pleasant features are to be found in the Saltwell Public Park and in the Team Valley Trading Estate. It is not uncommon indeed on Sunday to see many people walking along the main avenues of the trading estate enjoying the prospect of the old and new Gateshead on either side of the Team Valley.

The census of 1961 has shown somewhat sensationally the great decline in the estimated population of the Borough to an actual population of roughly 103,000, but then this decline is matched by corresponding increases in the population of Felling and of Whickham urban districts. The redress of this unbalance of population, for the population lost are in the main the young married families with children, will come about if the findings of the Local Government Commission are implemented. So far as Gateshead is concerned, the new borough, exercising all its present powers save that of police, planning and ambulance provision, will include both Felling and Whickham and other smaller additions from the surrounding area to give a population of 191,000, which will be numerous enough and wealthy enough to finance the necessary local government functions.

There is no doubt whatever that there will be great benefit in the field of local government health activity, as the services are developed for the people of the enlarged area based not on a remote headquarters

fourteen miles away, but on a centre which will be within a perimeter with a radius of four miles from the centre. This proposal is exactly the one propounded by the Local Authority saving only that a "county borough" was envisaged rather than what might be called a "new borough" under a new county council embracing police, planning and ambulance functions for the whole of Tyneside with its four contained boroughs.

### *Accidents*

The police returns of road traffic accidents in 1961 continued the somewhat depressing figures of the last seven years, whereby there were 303 accidents in the Borough, of which sixteen resulted in fatal injuries to individuals. The ages and sex of the persons killed were three boys, two aged 2 years and one aged 8 years, and 8 adult males aged 26 (2), 55, 63, 70, 79 and 86 (2) years respectively. One little girl of five years was killed and four adult females aged 32, 56, 61 and 78 years respectively. In addition to the fatalities there were 67 persons seriously injured and 302 slightly injured, a total of 385 persons altogether being involved. The highest incidence of accidents occurred in September and October, but the peak month for fatality was March. The persons who were killed were 13 pedestrians, 1 car driver, 1 motor cyclist and 1 pillion passenger. Seriously injured persons included 33 pedestrians, 5 car drivers, 15 motor cyclists, 2 pillion passengers, 3 pedal cyclists and 9 other persons (probably passengers). Altogether 210 of the 303 accidents occurred during the hours of daylight.

On analysing the emergency ambulance calls attended to by the Gateshead Ambulance Service in 1961 it appears that 1,383 persons were removed to hospital. Of these, 609 were accidentally injured and 197 were taken ill in the street, a total of 806. 176 persons were injured at home and 67 suddenly taken ill, a total of 243. 289 persons were injured at work and 45 were taken ill at work, a total of 334.

On further classification of these ambulance calls it appears that 21 persons were burned at home, 3 at work and 5 in the street. Cuts and wounds were sustained by 79 persons in the home, 83 in the street and 32 at work. Other emergencies numbered 55 in the home, 190 in the street and 156 at work.

Of this group 12 females and 26 males were certified as dead on arrival at hospital. These consisted of 1 home suicide, 11 patients who collapsed at home, 1 patient who collapsed at work, 14 people who collapsed in the street, 9 accidents in the street, one suicide found in the river and 1 patient involved in an accident at work.

Among the death returns of Gateshead residents in 1961, (which included deaths occurring outside the Borough), accidental deaths numbered 42, of which 15 were due to motor vehicle accidents involving 14 males, aged 1 year to 86 years, and one female aged 51. Eleven of the above (all males) were pedestrians, 3 (2 males and 1 female) were drivers or passengers in motor vehicles and one male was a driver of a motor cycle. The other 27 accidental deaths were of 16 males and 11 females, whose ages ranged from two months in a female child and one year in a



# METEOROLOGICAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR, 1961

	Temperature (Deg. Fahr.) in shade			Rainfall		Sunshine (hours)		Mean relative humidity %	Ground frosts	Days of snow
	Highest Max.	Mean Max.	Lowest Min.	Mean Min.	Mean	Total in inches	Dry Days	Total hours	Max. hours	
January	50	40.9	28	33.4	37.2	4.03	8	55.5	7.5	24
February	54	47.1	30	37.2	42.25	1.51	17	86.8	8.4	11
March	63	54.4	32	40.6	47.5	.72	26	129.9	9.7	4
April	62	52.2	32	42.1	47.2	2.72	12	88.0	9.1	3
May	65	55.1	37	44	49.5	1.76	23	169.2	12.6	1
June	78	62.3	41	49.6	55.9	1.89	20	179.1	15.5	1
July	69	63.7	43	51	57.4	3.64	21	116.8	14.5	—
August	77	64.4	44	51	57.7	2.07	13	183.6	12.4	—
September	76	63.7	43	51	57.4	1.31	18	135.7	10.9	—
October	62	54.8	37	44.5	49.7	3.72	14	103.8	8.9	—
November	57	46.7	31	38.2	42.5	1.23	5	79.1	7.9	10
December	53	38.7	17	30.8	34.8	2.78	13	49.1	6.0	22
	78	53.7	17	42.8	48.25	27.38	190	1376.6	15.5	76
	30th Jun.		31st Dec.						29th Jun.	16

Wind Directions :—N. 24, N.N.E. 1, N.E. 25, E.N.E. 1, E. 18, E.S.E. —, S.E. 23, S.S.E. 4, S. 28, S.S.W. 7, S.W. 73, W.S.W. 1, W. 67, W.N.W. 2, N.W. 89, N.N.W. 2.

male child to an old man of 88 and an old lady of the same age. Fifteen of the fatalities involved persons over 65 years of age, falls at home leading to a fatal issue involving 4 males and 9 females, all over 74 years of age, with the exception of one child of nearly two years.

Fatal falls outside the home involved 4 males, one a boy, one a middle-aged man and two men aged 82 and 88 respectively. One man was killed by a fall of stone at work and one man fell from a pedal cycle, one female infant of two months died of asphyxia and one old lady of 81 years died of burns. There were two deaths from poisoning, one a man of 23 from coal gas and one a man of 53 from barbiturates. A man aged 29 died in an aircraft crash, and another man of 46 died from a bullet wound inflicted in a game called 'Russian Roulette'. One male of 53 died from a blow on the head and a male of 38 years died from drowning. 18 of the fatalities occurred in the home, 2 at work and 7 outside the home.

## B. Climatic Conditions

The year 1961 was not entirely a happy one from the point of view of the holiday-maker, as July and August were both rainy months, while the driest month in the year was in March, which also had an abnormally high amount of sunshine. The total rainfall for the year of 27.38 inches is a little above the average, while the mean temperature was also slightly in excess of the recent average. The sunshine was below the average for recent years, while the westerly winds, with slight variations to the north and south dominated the local climate, as is usual. The sunshine record of 1,376.6 hours has to be compared with 892.1 hours recorded at King's College and 1,345.3 hours at Cockle Park.

## METEOROLOGICAL STATION — SHERIFF HILL HOSPITAL

### Summary of Climatological Conditions 1952 - 1961

Mean daily maximum — yearly average	..	..	52.8°F
Mean daily minimum — " "	..	..	42°F
Mean .. ..	..	..	47.4°F
Absolute maximum	..	..	86°F on 12th Aug. 1953
Absolute minimum	..	..	16°F on 20th Feb. 1955
Ground Frosts — yearly average	..	..	67
Humidity — " "	..	..	80%
Rainfall — " "	..	..	26.2 inches
Dry days — " "	..	..	196
Sunshine — " "	..	..	1,417.4 hours
Greatest amount of sunshine in one day	..	..	16.6 hours on 14th June, 1957
Winds — yearly average	..	..	N. 26, N.E. 29, E. 23, S.E. 31, S. 40, S.W. 60, W. 68, N.W. 66

## C. Social Conditions

### Unemployment

Mr. E. L. King, Manager of the Windmill Hills Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied me with the following information relating to employment in the district. At the end of the year there were 1,062 men, 148 women, 39 boys and 14 girls unemployed, giving a total of 1,263. This shows a reduction in the number of women unemployed, as compared with last year, and an increase in boys and girls unemployed,



Registered disabled persons number 1,785, 1,557 being men and 217 women, and 4 boys and 7 girls. 173 men, 25 women, 3 boys and 1 girl were unemployed, a total of 202.

During the year 59 persons attended the Industrial Rehabilitation Unit at Felling, 41 men, 12 women, 5 boys and one girl. Two men and one girl were also sent for training under the Vocational Training Schemes, to fit them for employment in suitable skilled occupations.

The Disablement Resettlement Officers maintained close contact with hospitals, and 44 patients who were recovering from serious accidents or illnesses were visited and action initiated to rehabilitate these patients to industrial life. A large number of patients were referred to the district resettlement officer from the hospitals.

### *National Assistance*

Mr. T. D. Walton, the Manager of the area office of the National Assistance Board, has supplied me with the following information for the year 1961. 6,309 persons were in receipt of National Assistance at the end of the year. These were made up of 575 persons who were unemployed, 1,013 persons suffering from physical or mental illness, 3,582 retirement pensioners, 219 non-contributory pensioners and 920 others. In this last group there are included widows under 60 years of age, women who are separated from their husbands and other aged persons of both sexes who have no entitlement to pensions.

### *National Insurance Sick Benefit*

In 1961, the normal weekly number of sickness claims in Gateshead and the adjoining district of Durham was between 400 and 500 during the months of April to October. This number was greatly exceeded during the first seven weeks of the year and also in the latter weeks of October and throughout November. The causes of the increased incidence at the times noted were the seasonal prevalences of catarrhal infections.

### *Welfare Services*

Although a change has been made this year in a full presentation of the report of the Director of Welfare Services in another part of the report, it is worth while to note an improvement in the hospital geriatric care available for aged persons as a result of the dedication of Whinney House to geriatric purposes. The local authority gave hostel accommodation to 256 residents at Fountain View, 14 at Beacon View and 16 at Birchholme, a total of 286 as compared with 344 in 1960. In Holly House four families totalling 18 persons were afforded temporary accommodation.

### *Deprived Children*

I am indebted to Miss Duffey, the Children's Officer, for the following figures and account of the work of the Children's Department :—

“Since the last Children's Department contribution to the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health the Children's Committee has



made another advance in the effort to further the wellbeing of children in their care. As a result of extension of the field work for the benefit of children it was possible during 1961 for the Working Boys' Hostel to be closed. This now leaves only three residential establishments within the Borough.

Briermede	—	with accommodation for 13 children plus 5 receiving beds.
Marsden Grove	—	13 children.
Working Girls' Hostel	—	at present having accommodation for 18 but with the diminishing need their numbers may soon be amended to accommodate fewer girls.

It is hoped that when more provision is made for general building that two new small family group homes may be erected to replace Briermede, each housing probably a maximum of 8 children, thus making the atmosphere within the home more nearly related to that within a normal family home.

Total No. of children in care	..	..	..	..	148	(1961—171)
„ „ „ „ „ Approved Schools	..	..	..	..	27	
„ „ „ „ „ Residential Homes	..	..	..	..	34	
„ „ „ „ „ Boarded out	..	..	..	..	92	
„ „ „ „ „ Under Supervision	..	..	..	..	7	
„ „ „ „ „ Voluntary Homes	..	..	..	..	10	
„ „ „ „ „ Special Schools	..	..	..	..	4	
„ „ „ „ „ Residential Employment	..	..	..	..	1	
„ „ „ „ „ Sea Training Schools	..	..	..	..	1	
„ „ „ „ „ Merchant Navy	..	..	..	..	3	
„ „ „ „ „ Working Girls' Hostel	..	..	..	..	2	
„ „ „ „ „ Working Boys' Hostel	..	..	..	..	—	Closed October 1961
„ „ „ „ „ Remand Homes	..	..	..	..	—	
„ „ „ „ „ Borstal Institution	..	..	..	..	—	
Number of other Authorities girls in Working Girls' Hostel					6	„

#### D. General Statistics of the Area

Population (estimated by Registrar General 1961) (includes added area)	103,290
Area of Borough (in acres)	4,559
Population of present Borough (Census 1931) (includes added area)	124,545
Population of present Borough (Census 1961)	103,232
No. of inhabited houses (Valuation Lists)	33,458
Density of population per acre	22.6
No. of persons per inhabited house	3.0
Rateable value at 1st April, 1961	£1,222,538
Estimated product of penny rate 1961/62	£4,870
Rate in the £ levied 1961/62	25/6

#### E. Vital Statistics for 1961

Live Births		Males	Females	Total	Rate
Legitimate	..	1,007	903	1,910	
Illegitimate	..	36	38	74	
Total	..	1,043	941	1,984	
					3.7 per cent, of total live births
					19.2 per 1,000 population
					(area comparability factor 0.96)

<i>Still Births</i>			<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Legitimate	..	..	18	34	52	
Illegitimate	..	..	3	—	3	
			21	34	55	
<i>Total live and still births</i>			1,064	975	2,039	26.9 per 1,000 total births.
<i>Deaths</i>	..	..	687	630	1,317	12.7 per 1,000 population (area comparability factor 1.20)
<i>Excess of births over deaths</i>			356	311	667	
<i>Infantile Mortality</i>						
Legitimate	..	..	36	21	57	29.8 per 1,000 live legitimate births.
Illegitimate	..	..	—	1	1	13.5 per 1,000 live illegitimate births.
			36	22	58	29.3 per 1,000 live births
<i>Neonatal mortality</i>						
Legitimate	..	..	28	11	39	
Illegitimate	..	..	—	1	12	
			28	12	40	20.1 per 1,000 live births.
<i>Early neonatal Mortality</i> (Deaths of infants under 1 week)						
Legitimate	..	..	24	10	34	
Illegitimate	..	..	—	1	1	
			24	11	35	17.6 per 1,000 live births.
<i>Perinatal Mortality</i> (Stillbirths and deaths of infants under 1 week)						
Legitimate	..	..	42	44	86	
Illegitimate	..	..	3	1	4	
			45	45	90	44.1 per 1,000 live births.
<i>Maternal mortality</i> (including abortion)	..		—	1	1	.49 per 1,000 total births.
<i>Deaths from Tuberculosis</i>						
(a) Pulmonary	..	..	6	1	7	.067 per 1,000 population.
(b) Non-pulmonary	..		—	—	—	
			6	1	7	0.67 per 1,000 population.
<i>Deaths from Epidemic Diseases</i>						
Diarrhoea	..	..	2	—	2	
Gastritis, enteritis	..		—	3	3	
			2	3	5	.04 per 1,000 population.
<i>Deaths from Cancer</i>	..		150	106	256	2.4 per 1,000 population

### *Population*

The steep fall in the population of Gateshead from its peak level of 124,545 has continued to the very low figure of 103,000. Although most of the large recent decline of population has been due to the overspill of the population into the surrounding areas, it is worth while also to remember that in the years of depression the town lost a large number of young families who took part in the notable movement to London and the South of England searching for more secure employment. This trend still goes on to a certain extent, a trend which everyone laments but fails to arrest,

# County Borough of Gateshead

## BIRTH RATES per 1,000 population

### 1871 - 1961

#### AVERAGE BIRTH RATES

1871-1880 45.3	1881-1890 38.6	1891-1900 36.0	1901-1910 34.8	1911-1920 28.7	1921-1930 24.0	1931-1940 18.1	1941-1950 20.1	1951-1960 17.9
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# County Borough of Gateshead

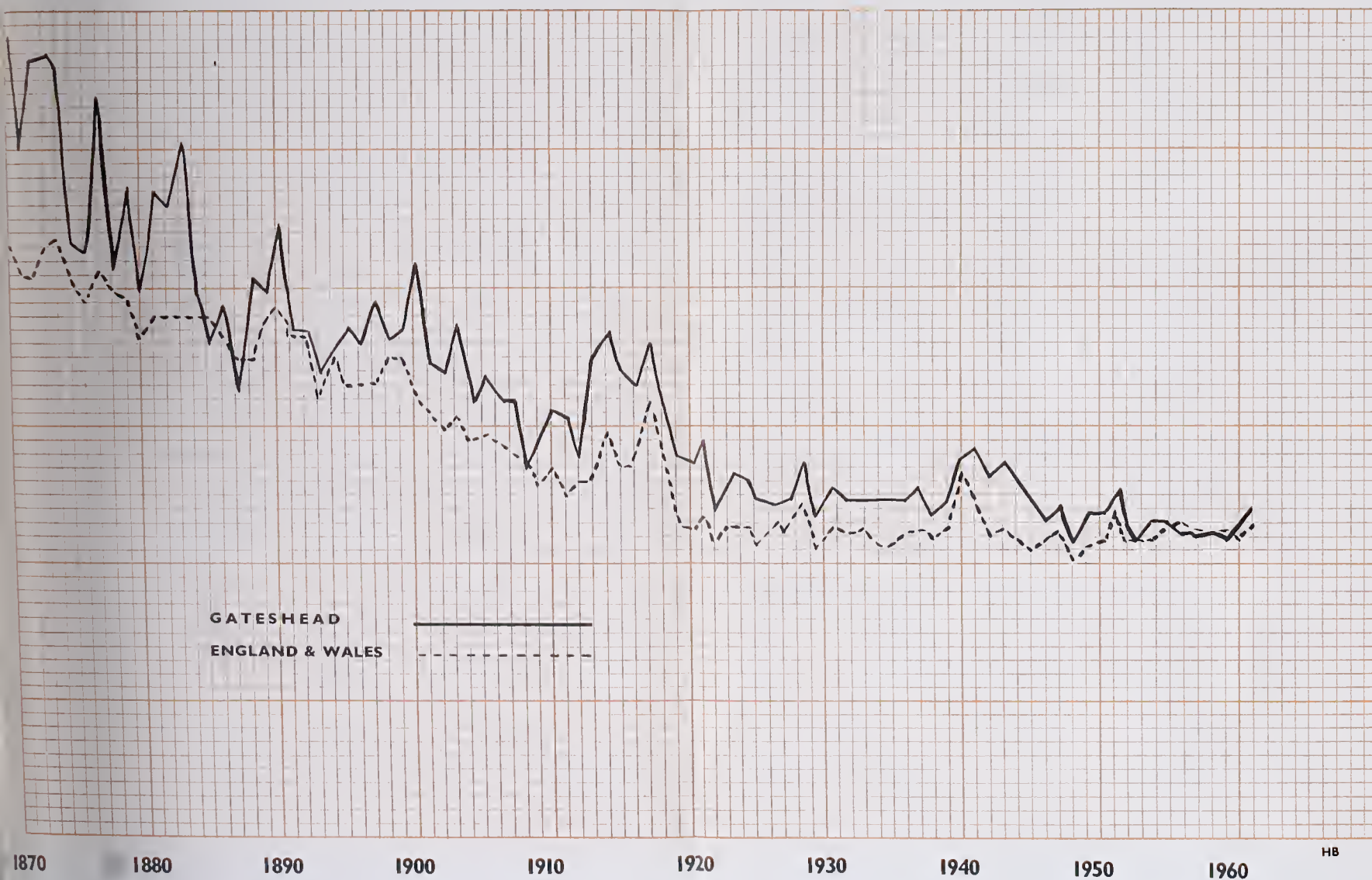
## DEATH RATES per 1,000 population

(at all ages and from all causes)

1871 - 1961

### AVERAGE DEATH RATES

1871-1880	1881-1890	1891-1900	1901-1910	1911-1920	1921-1930	1931-1940	1941-1950	1951-1960
26.1	21.3	19.4	17.4	16.9	13.7	13.1	13.1	11.7





## Births

The live birth rate of 19.2 per 1,000 population is a little above recent averages and higher than the national rate of 17.4.

The stillbirth rate of 26.9 per 1,000 total births is high indeed when compared with the national rate of 18.7.

## Deaths

The death rate of 12.7 per 1,000 of population has to be compared with the national rate of 12, but after adjustment by the area comparability factor of 1.20 it emerges at 15.2, having regard to the age distribution of the population. Nevertheless the deaths are exceeded by live births to the number of 667.

It is worthy of note that 732 deaths, considerably more than half the total deaths of Gateshead residents occurred in hospitals and similar institutions. These deaths are further analysed.

Altogether in the hospitals within the Borough there were 810 deaths but of these only 544 were Gateshead residents. The 810 deaths were of 380 males and 430 females, and took place in the hospitals mentioned below :—

Bensham General Hospital	..	..	449
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	..	..	225
Sheriff Hill Hospital	..	..	79
Whinney House Hospital	..	..	12
Children's Hospital	..	..	1
Welfare Hostels	..	..	44

Of the 206 deaths of Gateshead residents outside the Borough 182 took place in hospitals as follows :—

Royal Victoria Infirmary	..	..	28
Newcastle General Hospital	..	..	29
Dunston Hill Hospital	..	..	69
Conrad House	..	..	7
Walkergate Hospital	..	..	2
Shotley Bridge General Hospital	..	..	9
Whickham Cottage Hospital	..	..	5
St. Mary's Hospital	..	..	13
Fleming Memorial Hospital	..	..	2
Babies Hospital	..	..	4
Normans Riding Hospital	..	..	2
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital	..	..	2
Miscellaneous Hospitals and Nursing Homes	..	..	10

The infantile mortality rate of 29.3 per 1,000 of population compares unfavourably with the national rate of 21.4. The cause of the high infantile mortality is to be found mainly in the perinatal and neonatal mortality. 35 infants died in the first week of life and 5 others in the second week, the causes being, as usual, prematurity, congenital defects, birth injury and hyaline membrane disease. Pneumonia accounted for 12 deaths in infancy, while there were 5 deaths from gastro-enteritis, but these were mainly incidents of the later months of infancy.



Perinatal mortality covered 35 deaths of infants under one week and 55 still births, this being the highest figure for the last three years.

The principal causes of infantile mortality were :—

Prematurity .. .. .	23
Congenital malformations .. ..	11
Pneumonia .. .. .	12
Gastro-enteritis .. .. .	5
Meningitis .. .. .	1
Asphyxia .. .. .	2
Intracranial haemorrhage .. ..	1
Haemolytic disease .. .. .	1
Hyaline membrane disease .. ..	2

Maternal mortality covered one death ; a young married woman of 22 years collapsed and died at home, and at the coroner's inquest the verdict was that she died of quinine poisoning in attempting to provoke an abortion. The woman had taken at least  $3\frac{1}{2}$  gms. Quinine and was only two weeks pregnant. Although this is counted as a maternal death, it would appear from the circumstances that it is only technically so.

So far as the general population was concerned, the killing diseases were :—

Diseases of heart and circulation (heart disease 375, vascular lesions of nervous system 159, other circulatory diseases 59). .. .. .	593	(45%)
Cancer .. .. .	256	(19.4%)
Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases .. ..	205	(15.5%)
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	13	
Gastritis, Enteritis, Diarrhoea .. .. .	11	
Tuberculosis .. .. .	7	
Suicide .. .. .	13	
Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	15	
All other accidents .. .. .	27	

832 of the deaths were in persons over the age of 65 years, *i.e.* 63.1 %  
The average age at death was 65.5 years.

Deaths from cancer totalled 256 and are analysed in relation to the ages of the patients and the situation of the diseases in the table which is given below :—

<i>Age distribution</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
0 - 15 years ..	1	—	1
15 - 25 years ..	—	—	—
25 - 45 years ..	10	3	13
45 - 65 years ..	80	49	129
65 - 75 years ..	34	31	65
75 years and over ..	25	23	48
	150	106	256

<i>Site of the disease</i>		<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Larynx ..	..	1	—	1
Maxilla ..	..	1	—	1
Tongue ..	..	3	—	3
Mouth ..	..	1	1	2
Oesophagus ..	..	5	—	5
Stomach ..	..	13	23	36
Caecum, colon ..	..	9	11	20
Rectum ..	..	15	8	23
Gall bladder ..	..	—	2	2
Liver ..	..	5	2	7
Pancreas ..	..	1	1	2
Lung bronchus ..	..	68	14	82
Mediastinum ..	..	1	—	1
Breast ..	..	—	11	11
Cervix Uteri ..	..	—	8	8
Ovary ..	..	—	8	8
Vulva ..	..	—	1	1
Prostate ..	..	6	—	6
Kidney ..	..	—	1	1
Bladder ..	..	4	2	6
Brain ..	..	3	2	5
Other and unspecified sites ..	..	14	11	25
		150	106	256

The 205 respiratory deaths, the 256 cancer deaths and the diseases of the heart and arteries together accounted for 1,054 deaths, which is 80 per cent of all deaths. The circulatory deaths associated with the decline of the tissues are not at present amenable to preventive measures, but there is a growing evidence that the respiratory disease death rate and the death rate from respiratory cancer are the result of atmospheric pollution with the products of combustion of coal, while the part played in the causation of respiratory disease by cigarette smoking is gradually being acknowledged. The local experience of mortality from lung cancer is given in the table below covering recent years :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>
1961	82	1954	46	1947	33	1940	12
1960	70	1953	41	1946	18	1939	16
1959	60	1952	43	1945	17	1938	10
1958	52	1951	31	1944	13	1937	5
1957	61	1950	40	1943	17	1936	8
1956	43	1949	23	1942	20	—	—
1955	53	1948	29	1941	18	—	—

## COMPARABLE STATISTICS FOR GATESHEAD AND NEIGHBOURING AUTHORITIES, 1961

	<i>New- castle</i>	<i>Gates- head</i>	<i>South Shields</i>	<i>Sunder- land</i>	<i>Tyne- mouth</i>	<i>North- umber- land</i>	<i>Durham</i>
Registrar General's estimated population	267,230	103,290	109,350	189,600	70,080	480,530	956,5000
Comparability factor							
(a) Births	0.97	0.96	0.93	0.94	0.95	0.98	0.966
(b) Deaths	1.12	1.20	1.20	1.24	1.15	1.11	1.233
Crude birth rate per 1,000 population	18.11	19.2	18.41	20.36	19.49	16.75	18.22
Birth rate as adjusted by factor	17.57	18.4	17.12	19.14	18.52	16.41	17.55
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	12.28	12.7	12.09	10.06	11.74	11.97	11.22
Death rate as adjusted by factor	13.75	15.2	14.51	12.47	13.5	13.29	13.88
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	7.0	3.7	5.17	3.94	5.38	3.38	3.11
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	24.17	29.3	25.83	20.46	24.68	19.75	23.388
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	17.77	20.1	18.88	13.21	14.21	14.91	16.33
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 total births	34.65	44.1	39.73	30.72	30.74	33.17	35.77
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total births	19.25	26.9	24.71	19.8	21.23	20.33	22.22
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total births	—	.49	0.48	0.25	0.73	0.49	0.455
Tuberculosis rates per 1,000 population	0.66						
(a) Primary notifi- cations							
—Respiratory	.1	.91	0.71	0.64	0.81	0.45	0.444
—Non-respiratory	0.1	.03	0.08	0.09	0.11	0.09	0.083
(b) Deaths							
Respiratory	0.07	.06	0.09	0.08	0.04	0.06	0.083
—Non-respiratory	0.007	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.008	0.0033
<i>Death rates per 1,000 population from :</i>							
Cancer—all forms (including Leukaemia and Aleukaemia)	2.38	2.5	2.35	1.79	2.26	1.97	1.983
Cancer—Lungs and Bronchus only	0.65	.79	0.49	0.43	0.53	0.41	0.41

### F. Ward Statistics

We are in no position yet to give an accurate estimate of the ward populations in order to compare local health conditions.



## Statistical Rates for the last ten years

	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952
Population	103,290	108,560	109,100	109,900	110,900	111,900	113,200	113,610	113,500	114,600
Deaths :										
Uncorrected										
Number	2,512	2,403	2,506	2,480	2,476	2,354	2,244	2,291	2,353	2,224
Net number	1,984	1,973	2,011	1,984	2,064	1,951	1,916	1,951	2,033	1,993
Death rate per 1,000 pop'n	19.2	18.1	18.4	18.5	18.6	17.4	16.9	17.1	17.9	17.3
Deaths :										
Registered	1,393	1,322	1,199	1,371	1,381	1,395	1,497	1,449	1,372	1,402
Crude rate	13.4	12.1	10.9	12.4	12.4	12.4	13.2	12.7	12.0	12.2
Transfers out	282	231	210	263	229	245	254	230	181	195
Transfers in	206	215	241	196	125	130	105	129	109	143
Net number	1,317	1,306	1,230	1,294	1,277	1,280	1,348	1,348	1,300	1,350
Death rate per 1,000 pop'n	12.7	12.0	11.2	11.7	11.5	11.4	11.9	11.8	11.4	11.7
Infantile mortality :										
Deaths	58	57	47	60	57	56	59	56	67	82
Rate per 1,000 live births	29.2	28.8	23.3	30.2	27.6	28.7	30.7	28.7	32.9	41.4
Infantile death rate per 1,000 live births	.49	.99	.48	.48	.47	.99	2.01	2.49	0.47	Nil
Tuberculosis death rate	.067	0.055	.19	.20	.18	.17	0.22	0.36	0.27	0.42
Infantile Death rate	.04	.13	.17	.1	0.27	0.017	0.026	0.017	0.02	0.02
Cancer death rate	2.4	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.93	1.79	2.25	2.0	2.0	2.0

## PART II

### HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

With the publication of the Minister's hospital plan early in the year the matter of the proper organisation in quantity and quality of the hospital facilities for the Gateshead and district residents came into prominence. Future developments will take place on the Queen Elizabeth Hospital site which will ultimately have the effect of producing a large general hospital of nearly 1,000 beds to serve the area, while the other hospitals of the Management Committee will become obsolescent. In these circumstances the local planning committee has been looking at the question which will apparently only be solved by concentrating all new development at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital site.

The population to be served remains a matter of some dispute as adjustments have been made in the official figure to make allowance for the number of patients who are treated in the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle. But then, inasmuch as this teaching hospital serves the north-east as a whole, it would seem much wiser to leave the populations to be amended by the Registrar General, without introducing unrealities based on estimates which may be faulty. The Local Government Commission recommendation for a new Gateshead of 190,000 suggests that the realistic figure for hospital planning on the south bank of the River Tyne is 200,000 as against 160,000, the modified figure produced by officers of the Regional Hospital Board.

The immediate needs of the area are better arrangements for out-patient consultation, examination and investigation of patients by x-ray, laboratory tests and other appropriate methods. There also is a great need for a properly equipped casualty department in the Gateshead group to deal with road and other accidents, while the need for a geriatric service embracing hospital beds as well as out-patient facilities and follow-up clinics has been outstanding for many years. The new re-orientation would suggest the provision of beds for the mentally disturbed in the acute general hospitals but it is well to remember that Gateshead is already served by one of the most modern mental hospitals in the region although it is situated some fourteen miles north of Newcastle.

In passing, it is interesting to note that these mental hospitals were built as far as possible from centres of population to meet the prevailing ideas of some 40 or 50 years ago, but the fashion of the present time is leaning towards the feeling that all mental illness is somewhat similar to a surgical or medical condition and susceptible of appropriate treatment. The truth is that there is still a good reason for keeping many of the mentally disturbed people at a considerable distance from the large centres of population, and it seems quite uneconomic to close down the more modern of the mental hospitals because of some preconceived idea that mental illness should always be treated in an acute general hospital.

## A. HOSPITAL AND SPECIALIST SERVICES

(Part II of the National Health Service Act)

I am able, by courtesy of the various hospital authorities and their officers to give the following summary of the number of admissions of Gateshead patients in 1961.

<i>Hospital</i>	<i>Gateshead admissions during 1961</i>	<i>Hospital Management Committee</i>
Bensham General Hospital .. ..	3,045	Gateshead and District
Queen Elizabeth Hospital .. ..	2,431	do.
Sheriff Hill I.D. Hospital .. ..	1,086	do.
Whickham and District War Memorial Hospital .. ..	250	do.
Gateshead Children's Hospital ..	596	do.
Whinney House Geriatric Unit ..	28	do.
Normans Riding Hospital .. ..	272	do.
Dunston Hill Hospital.. ..	781	do.
Clinics : Chest, Gateshead Chest, Whickham		
Newcastle General Hospital .. ..	527	Newcastle upon Tyne
Hospital for Sick Children (Fleming Memorial) .. ..	167	do.
Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital ..	59	do.
W. J. Sanderson Orthopaedic Hospital	2	do.
Walker Gate Hospital .. ..	271	do.
Royal Victoria Infirmary .. ..	1,283	Newcastle upon Tyne United Hospital Board of Governors.
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital ..	62	do.
<i>Mental Hospitals and Institutions</i>		
St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington ..		St. Mary's
Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital ..		Prudhoe and Monkton
<i>Other Hospitals</i>		
Hexham General Hospital .. ..	18	Hexham and District
Wooley Sanatorium .. ..	13	do.
Shotley Bridge .. ..	123	North West Durham
Stannington Children's Sanatorium	11	Wansbeck
Hollywood Hall Sanatorium .. ..	7	South West Durham

The following particulars relating to births in the Gateshead hospitals may be worth noting :—

		<i>Queen Elizabeth Hospital</i>		<i>Bensham General Hospital</i>		<i>Total</i>	
		<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>	<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>	<i>Live</i>	<i>Still</i>
Gateshead .. ..		619	19	347	12	966	31
Other Areas .. ..		457	11	188	8	645	19
		1,076	30	535	20	1,611	50

So far as the Borough is concerned, the total confinements of Gateshead citizens that took place in hospital amounted to 1,180, an increase on the figure for last year,



## 2. Bacteriology

The public health laboratory service continues to provide valuable bacteriological and virological assistance in the elucidation of epidemic illness. Much use is made of our hospitals' system of examining paired sera as well as the examination and culture of secretions or excreta from the patients. Reference to the section on infectious diseases will give the results of some of the virus investigations in showing the presence in the community in 1961 of some diseases, fortunately mostly of milder virulence.

The following lists the bacteriology done in 1961 :—

(a) <i>Prevention and Treatment of Diseases :</i>					
Throat swabs for organisms	..	..		24	
Nasal swabs	..	..	..	—	
Sputa for tubercle bacilli	..	..		2,764	
Other specimens for tubercle bacilli	..			—	
Blood specimens for Widal reaction	..			—	
Faeces for organisms	..	..	..	466	
Urine for organisms	..	..	..	123	
Eye smears for gonococci	..	..		16	
Cerebro-spinal fluid for organisms	..			—	
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	31	
				—	3,424
(b) <i>Milk :</i>					
T.T. Milk	..	..	..	11	
Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	53	
T.T. Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	27	
Milk for tubercle bacilli for inoculation				3	
School milk supply	..	..	..	26	
				—	120
(c) <i>Water Supply</i>					
	..	..	..		12
(d) <i>Food Samples</i>					
	..	..	..		44
(e) <i>Control of Venereal Disease :</i>					
(1) Blood Wassermann Tests					
(i) Practitioners	..	..	..	76	
(ii) Ante-natal clinic	..	..	..	1,716	
(iii) V.D. Clinics	..	..	..	844	
(2) Cerebro-spinal fluid					
V.D. Clinics	..	..	..	—	2,636
					—
<i>Grand Total</i>					<u>6,236</u>

## 3. Blood Transfusion Service

The Regional Headquarters of the Blood Transfusion Service continues to function in the Pathological Unit of the Newcastle General Hospital. The relation to the Local Authority covers principally the sampling of blood in the municipal clinics for expectant mothers, these being examined for blood grouping, rhesus testing and also separately for Wassermann reaction. There is very good co-operation between the blood transfusion service personnel and all the doctors carrying out ante-natal work,



## B. LOCAL AUTHORITY HEALTH SERVICES

(Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946)

As foreshadowed in the report of last year the main developments were on the one hand the opening of a new municipal health centre to serve the inhabitants of the extensive areas of new housing development at Wrekenton and on the other the conversion and adaptation of the former South Close Day Nursery into the Adult Training Centre for subnormal males. The former project provided a very much admired and appreciated building very well constructed, having regard to the financial cost, to provide a waiting hall, consulting rooms and treatment room, staff room and clinic office and a dental officer's suite on an open site central to the area of housing development in Wrekenton. At the same time there were provided four corporation houses for the caretaker, district nurse, midwife and health visitor respectively. The health centre was designed to provide for such practitioners as might require surgery facilities for the patients in Wrekenton who had formerly lived in the riverside areas of the Borough and were now remote from the centre of the medical practitioner's practice. Conversations were in progress at the end of the year with the local medical practitioners, and it appeared that there was some hesitancy among them about the policy of renting accommodation from the local authority in premises which were called a 'health centre'. The last word, it must be remembered, has many meanings, but the earliest was surely the putting together of all the municipal health services dealing with children and school children and expectant and nursing mothers under one roof so as to provide for co-operation and co-ordination. This is all that has been attempted at Wrekenton where the practitioners were offered a chance to use the excellent premises in connection with their practices, without any other commitment than to pay a reasonable rent for the use of the premises.

Future developments of the child welfare and school medical service suggest that a town with an area such as Gateshead would be best served by replacing the church halls used as welfare centres, which have served very well indeed as infant welfare centres for consultation purposes and the sale of foods, by adhoc buildings of a non-pretentious nature designed to give proper facilities for the performance of immunising injections and vaccination. The protection of the young population against infectious diseases has now become the dominant motive in child welfare and school medical work, and the church halls formerly used and still in use for welfare centre purposes are far from satisfactorily equipped for the work of immunisation involving injections and other inoculations. The local authority has agreed to include in their provisional building programme a clinic centre for the Lobley Hill area, where at present mothers have to travel often considerable distances across a main road to a church hall, which no matter how well appointed must be inferior to a properly designed health centre. Similarly, in the Teams area there is a dependance on a church hall with very rudimentary facilities indeed, and here opportunity through slum clearance activity presents a possible redevelopment incorporating yet another miniature health centre with all the facilities required for the medical care of the children. In these two new health centres, it is not at the present moment considered necessary to include



dental facilities, as the tendency at the moment seems to be for the younger children to be catered for by private dental practitioners under contract with the local executive council, a trend which is reflected in a lessening demand on the local authority dental services.

The South Close Adult Training Centre began in March, with the supervisor, Mr. Herdman, a man of considerable previous experience in the work and some ten older boys transferred from the existing training centre at Old Fold. It was intended that this training centre should develop gradually during the year to something like its capacity of 30 pupils and a staff of three supervisors altogether. In practice, the staff are craftsmen in the woodwork trade, a profession which seems particularly adaptable to the teaching of handicrafts. That their services are appreciated by the pupils is shown by the regularity of their attendance and the enthusiasm that they show in producing goods with some market value. To add to this enthusiasm an incentive payment scheme was recommended at the end of the year for introduction early in 1962, whereby, based on the application of the pupil and the quality and quantity of the output, as much as 5/-s. a week might be earned, the sum fixed being one which is tolerated by the Assistance Board without adjustment being made in the amount of benefit paid.

The Local Authority has decided not to go in for adhoc hostels for the mentally ill or mentally subnormal patients who could be discharged from the appropriate hospitals, and it has been agreed that the Welfare Committee would accommodate such mentally handicapped persons as required this in Fountain View, and that in the case of children the Children's Committee would make similar provision. Up to the end of the year there was no need to invoke this help in respect of any handicapped person, but there was a child in the care of the local authority of low mentality who would probably require either institutional or hostel care on reaching the age of 18. In 1961, as far as can be foreseen this is all that the local demand amounts to.

A serious matter from the point of view of mental health is more fully reported in a section dealing with these arrangements and it concerns the inability of the present law governing the care of mentally subnormal persons to protect subnormal and severely subnormal girls from reproducing children who are, in the nature of things, to be extremely unlikely to get proper training and care. Under the old Mental Deficiency Act, girls of this kind illegitimately pregnant or intending to be married could, in appropriate instances, be sent to an institution or placed under guardianship, but today such precautionary measures appear to be inapplicable and indeed impossible. Yet it is well known that the genesis of many of the problem family of today lies in the mentally backwardness of either or both parents. This is surely a field in which preventive activities are very properly applicable, and should be provided for in the law.

The great work of immunisation was strengthened in 1961 by the forthcoming availability of oral vaccination with a living attenuated virus, so that there will be an actual competition between the injectable inactivated Salk and the live Sabin vaccine in the laudable objective of

protecting the people. In this work the Local Authority bears the responsibility but is very grateful to the family practitioners for their collaboration in dealing with large numbers of the general public whom the local authority staff might not reach.

Serious infectious disease has almost died out in Gateshead in these last years, apart from the normal mild infectious hepatitis and virus infections involving the nervous system.

## 2. Clinics and Welfare Facilities (as at 31st December, 1961)

### (1) *Greenesfield House and Health Centre*

School clinic	..	..	9 a.m. - 9.30 a.m. daily 4 p.m. daily—except Saturday
Child Welfare Centre	..	..	2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday
Ante and Post-natal Clinic	..	..	2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Wednesday
Dental Clinic	..	..	9 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily (by appointment) Saturday 9 a.m. - 12 noon.
Orthopaedic Clinic	..	..	Fortnightly by appointment (orthopaedic treatment daily by appointment).
Ophthalmic Clinic	..	..	Tuesday and Saturday mornings by appointment (Orthoptic treatment daily by appointment).
Artificial Sunlight Treatment	..	..	Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays—Boys Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays — Girls 2-4 p.m. weekday and Saturday mornings.
Immunisation Clinic	..	..	Tuesday weekly (2 p.m. - 4 p.m.—pre-school children) Saturdays—10 a.m. - 12 noon (school children), weekly.

### (2) *Chest X-Ray Unit*

Old Dispensary Buildings, Greenesfield House,	..	..	Afternoon 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Tues., Wed., Thurs., and Fri. Evening 5.30 p.m. - 7.0 p.m. Mon. and Thurs.
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### (3) *Gateshead District Nurses' Home*

Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinic			Tuesday 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. (District Nursing Association cases only)
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### (4) *Bensham Methodist Church Hall*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday (medical sessions)
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Tuesday (fortnightly)

### (5) *Low Fell Presbyterian Church Hall*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays (medical sessions).
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, 1st Wednesday, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

### (6) *Moore Street Methodist Church Hall*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Monday (medical session).
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, last Monday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

### (7) *Wrekenton Health Centre, Springwell Road*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	2 p.m. - 4 p.m. Monday
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, 1st Monday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

### (8) *Victoria Road Methodist Church Hall*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. Fri.
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, 1st Friday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.



(9) *Carr Hill Health Centre*

Minor Ailments Clinic	..	..	9 a.m. - 10 a.m. daily
Child Welfare Centre	..	..	Wednesday 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, last Wednesday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

(10) *Lobley Hill, Rowanwood Gardens, All Saint's Church Hall*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	Thursday 2 p.m. - 4.0 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, 1st Thursday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

(11) *Old Fold Centre, Old Fold Road*

Child Welfare Centre	..	..	Friday 2 p.m. - 4.30 p.m.
Immunisation and Vaccination	..	..	Monthly, last Friday 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**3. Local Hospitals serving the area (Out-patient consultations)***Queen Elizabeth Hospital**Medical*

Dr. T. Parkin	..	..	Monday p.m., Wednesday p.m.
Dr. D. W. Ashby	..	..	Tuesday a.m.
Dr. C. N. Armstrong	..	..	Tuesday p.m.
Dr. H. A. Dewar	..	..	Friday a.m.
Mr. S. Way	..	..	Thursday a.m. (Dr. W. S. Locke 1st in month)
Diabetic clinic	..	..	Monday a.m.
Surgical appliances (Mr. Moselhi)	..	..	Wednesday a.m., Friday p.m.
Psychiatry	..	..	Thursday p.m.
Medical follow-up	..	..	Saturday a.m.

*Surgical*

Mr. J. Henderson	..	..	Monday a.m., Thursday a.m., Friday a.m.
Mr. T. H. Tweedy	..	..	Wednesday a.m., and p.m.
Mr. B. V. McEvedy	..	..	Thursday p.m.

*Orthopaedic*

Mr. A. E. Bremner	..	..	Monday p.m., Wednesday a.m.
Mr. T. A. Berry	..	..	Tuesday p.m., Friday p.m.
Fracture clinic	..	..	Tuesday a.m.

*Bensham General Hospital*

Dr. D. W. Ashby	..	..	Monday a.m., Wednesday a.m., Friday a.m. and p.m.
Medical registrar	..	..	Tuesday a.m., Saturday a.m.

*Gynaecology*

Mr. D. F. Smith	..	..	Thursday a.m.
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*Gateshead Children's Hospital*

Ante-natal clinic	..	..	Tuesday a.m., Wednesday a.m., and p.m., Thursday a.m.
Post-natal clinic	..	..	Monday a.m.
Gynaecology	..	..	Tuesday a.m. and Thursday a.m.

*Paediatrics*

Dr. R. H. Jackson	..	..	Monday a.m., Thursday p.m.
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*Ear, Nose and Throat*

Mr. R. G. Chaytor	..	..	Wednesday a.m.
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*Dermatology*

Dr. T. Parkin      ..      ..      ..      Tuesday a.m., Wednesday p.m.

*Whickham Cottage Hospital*

Mr. T. H. Tweedy      ..      ..      Tuesday a.m.

*Orthopaedic*

Mr. A. E. Bremner      ..      ..      Wednesday a.m. (alt. weeks)

**4. Maternity and Child Welfare**

(Report by Dr. Jean M. Bainbridge)

*(a) Births*

There were 1,984 live births registered during 1961. Of the total live births, 1,043 were males and 941 females. This represents a birth rate of 19.2 per 1,000 of population, showing an increase of 1.1 per 1,000 from 1960. 74 births (36 males and 38 females), or 3.7 per cent were illegitimate. This shows a decrease of 0.1 from 1960.

<i>Attended by</i>				<i>No. of live births</i>	<i>No. of stillbirths</i>
—	..	..	..		1 unattended
Doctors	..	..	..	238	—
Midwives	..	..	..	671	15
Princess Mary Maternity Hospital—in wards	..			45	3
Bensham Hospital	..	..		347	12
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	..			619	19
Craigielea Nursing Home	..			—	—
Other Nursing Homes	..	..		64	5
				<u>1,984</u>	<u>55</u>

In all the doctors' cases a registered midwife was in attendance as a maternity nurse.

*Stillbirths*

There were 55 stillbirths during the year. Of these, 21 were males and 34 were females, making a stillbirth rate of 26.9. This is an increase of 3.7 on 1960.

26 of the stillbirths were among premature babies.

*(b) Infantile Mortality*

There were 58 deaths among infants under the age of one year, giving an infantile mortality rate of 29.8. 40 infants died under the age of one month, making a rate of 20.1, a decrease of 3.7 on last year's rate. 35 of these died during the first week, and of these 22 died during the first 24 hours.

The number of children who died over one month and below the age of one year was 18. This is an increase of 8 on 1960, and of these 2 died

from lobar pneumonia, 7 from bronchopneumonia, 3 from gastro-enteritis, 2 from congenital defects, 1 from cystic disease of the pancreas, 1 from meningitis, 1 from asphyxia and 1 from adreno-genital syndrome. The main increase in deaths in this age group was due to the number of children who died from pneumonia.

Of the 40 children who died under the age of one month, 23 were due to prematurity, 6 died from congenital defects, 3 from pneumonia, 2 from diarrhoea, 2 from hyaline membrane disease, 1 from disease of the pancreas, 1 from haemolytic disease, 1 from intracranial haemorrhage and 1 from asphyxia.

Once again prematurity is still the main cause of death among young children. Of the 40 infants who died under one month 23 died from prematurity.

This year 16.6 per cent of the babies were breast-fed at four months old. The continued drop in the percentage of children who are breast-fed at four months may in part be accounted for by the tendency to wean children much earlier. Nevertheless, it is to be deplored that there is so little breast feeding, as the breast-fed infant is so much more able to withstand infection than the artificially fed infants.

#### Deaths from Stated Causes at Various Ages under One Year of Age

<i>Cause of death</i>	<i>under 1 week</i>	<i>1-2 weeks</i>	<i>2-3 weeks</i>	<i>3-4 weeks</i>	<i>Total deaths under 4 weeks</i>	<i>1-3 mnths</i>	<i>3-6 mnths</i>	<i>6-9 mnths</i>	<i>9-12 mnths</i>	<i>Total deaths under 1 year</i>	
										<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
All causes	35	5	—	—	40	9	6	2	1	36	22
Pneumonia	2	1	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	2	3
Bronchopneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	—	4	3
Gastritis, Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
Diarrhoea	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Congenital defects	6	—	—	—	6	1	1	—	—	6	2
Prematurity	21	2	—	—	23	—	—	—	—	16	7
Disease of pancreas	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2	—
Haemolytic disease	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Intracranial haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Asphyxia	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1
Hyaline Membrane disease	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—
Adreno-genital syndrome	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
<i>Totals</i>	35	5	—	—	40	9	6	2	1	36	22

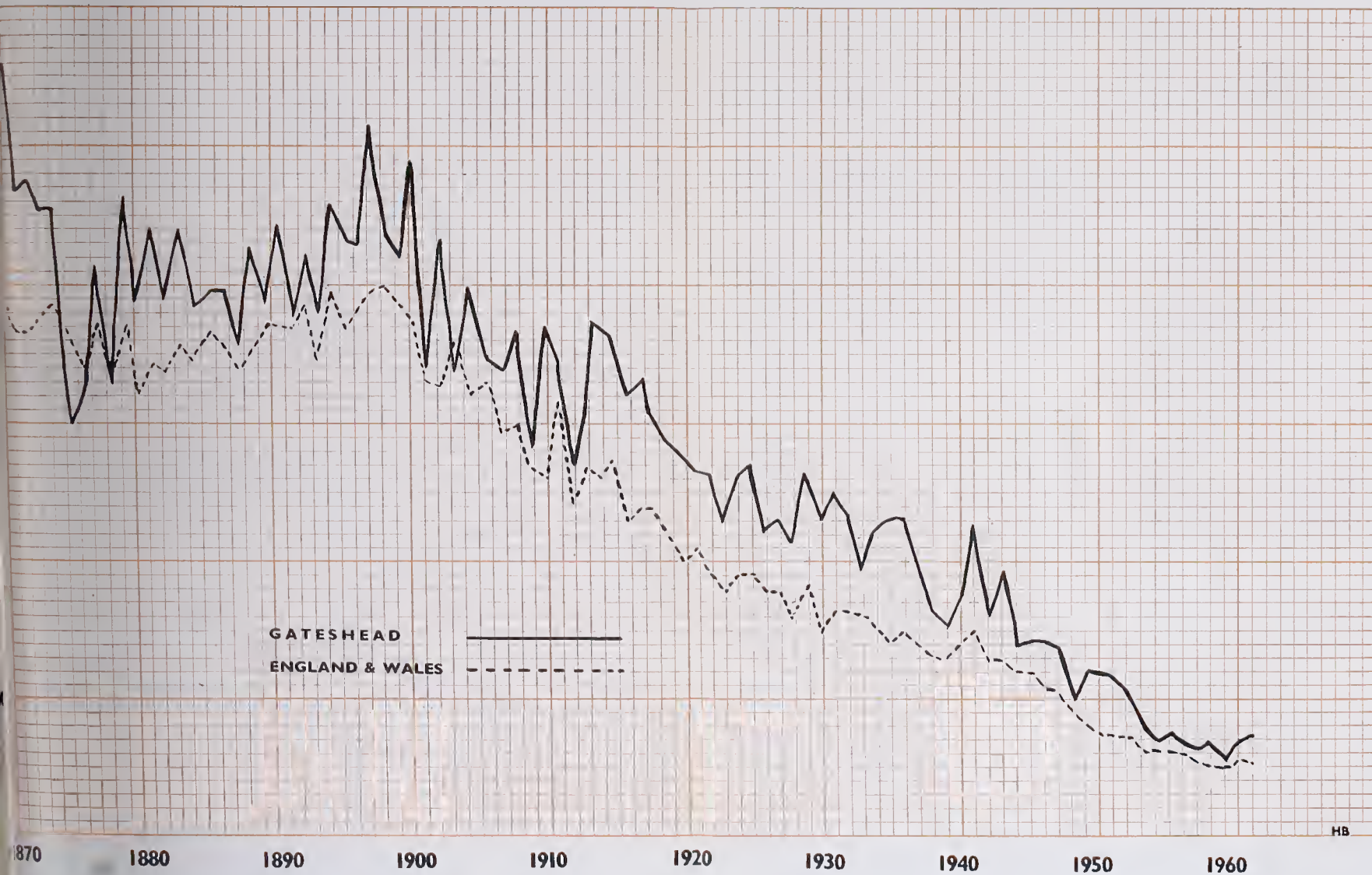
# County Borough of Gateshead

## INFANTILE MORTALITY per 1,000 live births

### 1871 - 1961

#### AVERAGE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

1871-1880 172	1881-1890 161	1891-1900 174	1901-1910 149	1911-1920 127	1921-1930 96	1931-1940 81	1941-1950 59	1951-1960 31
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(c) *Child Welfare Clinics*

<i>Centre</i>	<i>No. of sessions</i>	<i>First visits of children 0-1 years</i>	<i>Revisits of children 0-1 years</i>	<i>First visits of children 1-5 years</i>	<i>Revisits of children 1-5 years</i>
Greenesfield .. ..	95	250	1,715	185	1,070
Bensham .. ..	96	368	3,517	139	1,587
Moore Street .. ..	47	186	1,764	89	570
Low Fell .. ..	98	195	2,492	87	872
Victoria Road .. ..	51	152	1,510	84	707
Wrekenton .. ..	47	142	1,125	66	815
Lobley Hill .. ..	51	97	1,293	69	1,153
Carr Hill .. ..	51	192	1,797	110	998
Old Fold .. ..	50	99	807	122	497
	586	1,681	16,020	951	8,269

<i>Centres</i>	<i>No. of attendances</i>	<i>Average attendance at Doctor's Sessions</i>	<i>Infant Examinations by medical officer</i>	<i>Average No. of Consultations per Session</i>
Greenesfield .. ..	3,220	33.9	876	9.42
Bensham .. ..	5,621	58.55	1,252	13.17
Moore Street .. ..	2,609	55.51	724	15.4
Low Fell .. ..	3,646	37.2	1,082	11.8
Victoria Road .. ..	2,453	48.0	752	14.74
Wrekenton .. ..	2,246	47.78	754	16.00
Lobley Hill .. ..	2,612	51.2	661	13.0
Carr Hill .. ..	3,097	60.7	705	13.8
Old Fold .. ..	1,523	30.4	391	7.82
<i>Totals</i> .. ..	27,027	47.3	7,197	12.79

*Treatment*

During the year, 161 children were referred to the minor ailments clinic and made 445 attendances.

The children were treated for the following conditions :—

Scabies  
 Impetigo  
 Septic Sores  
 Eczema and Dermatitis  
 Other skin conditions  
 Eye Defects  
 Ear Defects  
 Miscellaneous conditions

165 children were referred to the refraction clinic. The following are the particulars :—

No. of appointments made .. ..	165
No. of appointments kept .. ..	144
No. for whom spectacles were prescribed	73

(d) *Nursery Schools*

Prior Street and Brighton Avenue Nursery classes continued to care for about 60 children between the ages of 2 and 5 years. Another 20 children were accommodated in the Bensham Settlement. The Bensham Nursery School has not yet been built. Priority admission was given to children whose mothers were employed or in ill-health.

A health visitor makes weekly visits to treat minor ailments, and one of the school medical officers makes regular visits to examine the children medically.

(e) *Day Nursery, Holy Trinity*

Holy Trinity Nursery has places for 120 children aged between a few weeks old and 5 years. It is open from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. six days a week—although only a few children are in the nursery on Saturday. During 1961 the average attendance was 86.5.

The nursery is primarily for children whose mothers have to work, either because they are widowed, divorced or separated from their husbands or because they are unmarried mothers. If there are vacancies after these necessitous cases are accommodated then the children of other working mothers are allowed into the nursery. They, however, have to pay 35/- a week, but necessitous cases, depending on circumstances, pay either 10/- or £1 a week.

The day nursery is sometimes used to alleviate difficulties at home. For example we had 6 children from problem families who were completely untrained in the nursery during 1961, and very valuable work was done in training the children and also in helping to rehabilitate the families. We continued to have the child of blind parents in the nursery and we are delighted with this child's progress.

During the year all the children in the nursery were examined medically and dentally. During the year 23 children had German Measles, 3 Chicken Pox, 1 Mumps, 1 Measles and 3 Scarlet Fever.

*Nurseries and Child-Minders' Regulations Act. 1948*

The Beth Midrash Lemoroth Nursery for Jewish children has continued throughout the year at 61 Rectory Road. It is now open from 9 a.m. until 12 noon. The nursery has places for 20 children and has been fully occupied during the year. When visited the children in this nursery appeared to be happy and well cared for.

The small nursery class at Arundel Gardens, which was opened in 1960, takes 10 children four afternoons a week, Monday to Thursday, from 1.30 p.m. until 4 p.m. When visited the children appeared fit and happy.

(f) *Milk and other Foods sold during 1961*

This department continues to work smoothly. Ladies from the



Women's Voluntary Services have given valuable assistance at Greenesfield Health Centre on Mondays and Fridays and at Bensham Centre on Tuesdays and Thursdays and have assisted when requested at other centres during holidays and rush periods.

During the year the following amounts of National Dried Milk and Vitamin foods were supplied :—

56,600 tins of National Dried Milk  
4,272 bottles of Cod Liver Oil  
2,879 packets of Vitamin tablets  
27,230 bottles of Orange Juice

£2,503 15s. 8d. was taken in stamps and £3,391 5s. 4d. in cash for National Dried Milk, 4,425 tins were issued free, 1,649 tins were sold at 4/-s. a tin to mothers who wished to purchase more than the Ministry allowed at the lower price, the total amount being £6,224 17s. 0d. £410 12s. 1d. was taken in stamps and £450 13s. 6d. in cash for orange juice, and 1,412 bottles were issued free, £35 4s. 0d. was taken in cash for Cod Liver Oil and 3,568 bottles were issued free. £23 10s. 6d. was taken in cash for vitamin tablets, and 1,938 packets were issued free of charge.

In addition, 240 tins of National Dried Milk, 144 bottles of Cod Liver Oil and 108 bottles of Orange Juice were issued to hospitals.

The following amounts of milk and other foods were sold during 1961 :—17,390 packets of dried milk, 3,139 bottles of Adexolin, 30 packets of Barley, 26 packets of Cow and Gate Cereal, 1,264 packets of Farex, 305 packets of Groats, 137 jars of Malt and Oil, 51 jars of Malt and Iron, 545 bottles of Minadex, 1,020 packets of Baby Rice, 2,973 tins of Ovaltine, 274 packets of Robrex, 913 tins of Robsoup, 8,279 bottles of Rosehip Syrup, 532 packets of Scott's Twin Packs, 1,091 tins of Horlicks, 330 packets of Trufood Cereal, 28 jars of Vimaltol, 1,334 tins of Marmite, 1,247 Jars of Virol, 4,170 packets of Rusks, 417 tins of Rob-sweet, 137 packets of Supavites, 679 tins of S.M.A., 24 packets of Scott's Groats. In addition 193 tins of Dried Milk were sold to hospitals.

Receipts amounted to £5,322 17s. 11d., against a cost of £4,806 17s. 7d.

#### (g) *Care of Premature Infants*

During the year, 190 premature infants were born to Gateshead mothers. 163 were born alive. The particulars of these were as follows :—

<i>Place of birth</i>	<i>No. of live births</i>	<i>Deaths under 24 hours</i>	<i>Deaths under 28 days</i>	<i>Alive</i>
At Home .. ..	51	2	7	42
Queen Elizabeth Hospital .. ..	63	8	4	51
Bensham Hospital .. ..	40	3	2	35
Other Hospitals .. ..	9	2	—	7
<i>Totals</i> .. ..	163	15	13	135



Of the 57 premature infants who were born at home, 51 were born alive and 6 were stillborn. The following are the particulars of those who were born alive :—

<i>Weight at birth</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Died under 24 hours</i>	<i>Died under 28 days</i>	<i>Alive</i>	<i>Transferred to hospital</i>	
					<i>Died</i>	<i>Alive</i>
3 lbs. 4 ozs. or less 1,000 gms.—1,500 gms.	4	1	1	—	1	1
Over 3 lbs. up to and including 4 lbs. 6 ozs. Over 1,500 gms.—2,000 gms.	13	—	1	6	3	3
Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. up to and including 4 lbs. 15 ozs. Over 2,000 gms.—2,250 gms.	10	—	1	7	—	2
Over 4 lbs. up to and including 5 lbs. 8 ozs. Over 2,350 gms.—2,500 gms.	24	—	2	20	—	2
<i>Totals</i>	51	1	5	33	4	8

During the whole of 1961 all premature infants were either cared for in hospital or by the midwives who delivered them. 591 visits were made in connection with premature babies born and nursed on the district.

414 visits were made by midwives in connection with the continued supervision of infants discharged before the 10th day from hospital.

Cots, blankets, hot water bottles, etc., were lent to the parents on 15 occasions.

#### (h) *Care of Illegitimate Children*

There were 74 illegitimate live births in the Borough in 1961, 36 males and 38 females.

The following is a summary of the particulars of these :—

<i>Total No. of child- ren</i>	<i>Living with mother or near relative</i>	<i>Child adopt- ed</i>	<i>Left the district or not traced</i>	<i>Board- ed out</i>	<i>In resi- dential nurs- ery</i>	<i>Died</i>	<i>Children living with mother or near relative</i>	
							<i>Children well cared for in good home</i>	<i>Home conditions poor but child thriving</i>
74	54	4	14	—	—	2	48	6

Of the illegitimate children who died, one died from prematurity and cerebral haemorrhage and the other had a major congenital defect (meningocele).

There is one voluntary organisation for rescue and moral welfare in Gateshead, the St. Faith's Home, in which expectant mothers are received from Gateshead, and from various parts of the country. Seven girls were paid for by the Local Authority. Arrangements are also made

through the Health Department for girls to be received into homes out of the town and payment is made for them by the Local Authority.

The mothers accommodated at St. Faith's Home attend the hospital ante-natal clinic, and arrangements are made for them to be confined in hospital.

In Gateshead, a large proportion of the illegitimate children remain at home, and are looked after by their mothers or relatives.

(i) *Ophthalmia Neonatorum*

There were no cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified during 1961.

(j) *Ultra-violet Ray Therapy*

10 new cases and 6 old cases attended the clinic for treatment and made 102 attendances. They were treated for the following defects :—

Debility and not gaining weight  
Alopecia

7 completed the treatment and were improved.

(k) *Hospital Treatment for Ailing Children*

Such children belonging to the Borough are usually referred to the following hospitals :—

The Children's Hospital, Gateshead.  
The Children's Department of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle.  
The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead.  
The Fleming Memorial Hospital, Newcastle.

It is the custom of the hospitals to forward to the Health Department a copy of the discharge letter sent to the patient's own doctor.

(l) *Exceptional Children*

The following list of special cases among children under 5 years receive extra attention from the health visitors, who see that treatment is obtained where necessary.

At the age of two years, the names of the children among these cases who are likely to require special educational facilities are passed on to the school medical service so that suitable arrangements can be made as early as possible.

Eye defects	..	..	..	..	64
Congenital defects	..	..	..	..	100
Orthopaedic cases	..	..	..	..	82
Deaf and dumb or deaf	..	..	..	..	7
Speech defects	..	..	..	..	5
Hare lip or cleft palate	..	..	..	..	16
Mentally retarded	..	..	..	..	36
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	38

The congenital defects comprised :—

Congenital heart disease	..	..	25
Hydrocele	..	..	2
Inguinal hernia	..	..	13
Hiatus hernia	..	..	5
Pyloric stenosis	..	..	4
Naevus	..	..	5
Imperforate anus	..	..	1
Stridor	..	..	1
Hypospadias	..	..	4
Fibrocystic disease of pancreas	..	..	3
Spina bifida	..	..	7
Cerebral palsy	..	..	8
Extra digits	..	..	6
Right arm smaller than left	..	..	1
Umbilical hernia	..	..	8
Imcomplete development	..	..	1
Bell's Palsy	..	..	2
Undescended testicles	..	..	1
Hydrocephalus	..	..	2
Congenital absence of fibula	..	..	1

*Mentally retarded*

Convulsions	..	..	8
Mongols	..	..	13
Microcephalic	..	..	1
Backward	..	..	13
Cretin	..	..	1

*Orthopaedic cases*

Birth injury	..	..	2
Talipes	..	..	22
Scoliosis	..	..	2
Perthe's Disease	..	..	1
Dislocated hip (congenital)	..	..	6
Torticollis	..	..	1
Paralysis following polio	..	..	1
Ingrowing toe nail	..	..	1
Irregular development of fingers and toes	..	..	10
Flat feet	..	..	2
Genu-varum	..	..	12
Genu-valgum	..	..	4
Hypophosphatasia	..	..	1
Shortening of left leg	..	..	1
Traumatic postural amputation of middle finger	..	..	1
Shortening of leg	..	..	1
Trigger thumb	..	..	1
Osteogenesis imperfecta	..	..	1
Webbed toes	..	..	2
Enlarged liver	..	..	1
Hirschsprung's Disease	..	..	1
Congenital abnormality cervical spine	..	..	1
Severe malabsorption syndrome	..	..	1
Split uvulae	..	..	1
Abnormalities of ear	..	..	2
Cyst on eye	..	..	1
Cyst on face	..	..	1
Coeliac disease	..	..	1
Sternomastoid tumour	..	..	2



*Miscellaneous*

Eczema	..	..	..	..	15
Asthma	..	..	..	..	2
Enlarged liver and spleen	..	..	..	..	1
Malrotation of gut	..	..	..	..	1
Enlargement of bowel	..	..	..	..	2
Tumour on eyelid	..	..	..	..	1
Osteogenesis imperfecta	..	..	..	..	1
Anaemia	..	..	..	..	1
Salt losing syndrome	..	..	..	..	1
Psoriasis	..	..	..	..	2
Ectopic bladder and bowel	..	..	..	..	2
Small growth on back of digits	..	..	..	..	1
Minor defects	..	..	..	..	7
Ptosis of eye	..	..	..	..	1

**Midwifery Service***(a) Midwives*

54 midwives notified their intention to practise midwifery in the Borough. They were distributed as follows :—

Municipal midwives	..	..	..	12
District Nurses' Home	..	..	..	9
Private	..	..	..	—
Queen Elizabeth Hospital	..	..	..	17
Bensham Hospital	..	..	..	16

The following is a summary of the work of the Supervisor of Midwives Mrs. M. A. Bolam :—

Routine visits to midwives	..	..	37
Special visits to midwives	..	..	25
Visits to still births	..	..	50
Nursings and deliveries supervised	..	..	8
Visits to premature babies	..	..	179
Special visits	..	..	185
Unsuccessful visits	..	..	86
Routine interviews with midwives	..	..	374
Attendances at ante-natal clinics	..	..	47
Visits to puerperal pyrexia	..	..	6
Visits to neo-natal deaths	..	..	65

At the routine visits paid to the domiciliary midwives, inspections were made of their register of cases, temperature charts, ante-natal records, bags and appliances.

During 1961, no midwives resigned and in August and September we had 3 recruits to the service, although during the summer months we had no holiday reliefs, as we had in the previous years. Once again three midwives over the age of 60 elected to continue working. I would like to thank the midwives for their valuable work during the year. As reported in the previous report we had commenced a night-rota system in 1960, all calls after 6 p.m. in the evening to 6 a.m. the next morning being sent direct to the ambulance station, who called the midwife on first call, on second call, on third call and on fourth call, as required. During 1961 this system continued to work extremely well and I think the midwives were very pleased with it,

At the end of December, 1961, we had 11 midwives plus one supervisor on the municipal staff. The District Nursing Association had six midwives and no supervisor.

### (b) *Ante-natal Care*

#### Summary of Work at Clinics

The following is a summary of the attendances at the various clinics :

<i>Centre</i>	<i>No. of sessions</i>	<i>No. of 1st visits</i>	<i>No. of revisits</i>	<i>Total attendances</i>	<i>Average per session</i>
Greenesfield .. ..	51	105	103	205	4.1
District Nurses' Home	44	29	95	124	2.8

Blood was taken for routine Wassermann and Rhesus Test at the municipal clinic and at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Clinic. In all, 1,541 specimens were tested and there were no positive cases.

During the year all the mothers were invited to have their chest x-rayed as a routine on their first visit to the ante-natal clinic.

### (c) *Maternal Welfare*

There was one death associated with pregnancy during the year.

<i>No.</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Cause of Death</i>
1	22	Quinine Poisoning (Attempted abortion — self-induced). Post-mortem and inquest.

### (d) *Puerperal Pyrexia*

The following is an analysis of the cases notified under the Regulations :—

<i>Case No.</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>End Result</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
1	Home	Yes	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 2nd day of the puerperium. Removed to hospital, where she was treated with chemotherapy and the condition settled down. Diagnosis was severe pyrexia probably uterine in origin.
2	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed pyrexia on the evening following delivery. Treated with chemotherapy and the temperature settled down again. This was puerperal pyrexia of unknown origin.
3	Home	—	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 2nd day of puerperium — treated with chemotherapy. Diagnosed pyrexia of unknown origin.
4	Hospital	—	Cured	Temperature developed one day prior to delivery. Continued for two days of the puerperium. Treated with chemotherapy. Pyrexia was due to pyelitis.

<i>Case No.</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Removed to Hospital</i>	<i>End Result</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
5	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 4th day. Had two rigors and became confused. Treated with chemotherapy and the temperature settled down. Diagnosed pyrexia of unknown origin.
6	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 3rd day of puerperium. Treated with Aureomycin and temperature returned to normal within two days. Pyrexia due to uterine infection
7	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 9th day of puerperium which continued until 11th day. Treated with chemotherapy. Infection was due to a urinary infection.
8	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 8th day. Treated with chemotherapy, the temperature returned to normal by 10th day. Pyrexia was due to a urinary infection.
9	Hospital	—	Cured	Pyrexia developed on 6th day. Treated with chemotherapy. Temperature returned to normal on 9th day. Pyrexia due to a urinary infection.
10	Hospital	—	Cured	Pyrexia developed on 3rd day of puerperium following an elective lower segment Caesarean Section. Treated with chemotherapy the temperature returned to normal. Diagnosed pyrexia of unknown origin.
11	Home	Yes	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 5th day following the birth of a stillborn lacerated foetus. On 5th day patient transferred to hospital where she was very ill with a puerperal infection. Given a three week course of chemotherapy and made a complete recovery. Cause of puerperal infection was unknown.
12	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed puerperal pyrexia on 1st day of puerperium. From symptoms it appeared that she had 'flu. Patient treated with Aspirin and recovered within 48 hours.
13	Hospital	—	Cured	Developed puerperal pyrexia on 8th day of puerperium. Returned to normal by 12th day, after chemotherapy. Cause was a urinary infection.
14	Hospital	—	Cured	Pyrexia started on 3rd day of puerperium and patient did not return to normal until 15th day of puerperium. Treated with sulphonamide, but probable cause of infection was urinary together with 'flu
15	Home	Yes	Cured	Developed pyrexia on 1st day of puerperium — transferred to hospital.

#### (e) *Emergency Cases*

In one case where a doctor had not been previously engaged, medical aid was called by the midwife for the mother who was suffering from phlebitis.



It will be noted that there has been a drop in the number of cases where a doctor, who has not been previously engaged, has been called by the midwife to give medical aid to the mother, infant or both. This I think is due to the fact that the practice is to book both a doctor and a midwife.

(f) *Hospital Accommodation for Maternity Cases*

The following is a summary of the Gateshead cases admitted to the Princess Mary Maternity Hospital during the year :—

Live births	..	..	45
Still births	..	..	3

There were 459 births, including 12 still births, to Gateshead mothers in the Bensham General Hospital, and 638 births, including 19 stillbirths, in the maternity unit of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

(g) *Consultant Aid for Emergency Cases*

During 1961, the emergency team provided by the Hospital Boards was called out on 9 occasions. This is the same number of times as in 1960. This service plays a very great part in dealing with severe emergencies which arise at home, where it would be dangerous to move the patient to hospital.

(h) *Midwifery Outfits*

Midwifery outfits containing clothing and bed-linen necessary for both mother and infant are available at the ante-natal clinic. No outfits were borrowed during the year.

(i) *Municipal Midwifery (Midwives' Act, 1936)*

<i>Midwife</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>		<i>No. of morning visits</i>	<i>No. of evening visits</i>	<i>Ante-natal visits</i>
	<i>Attended as midwife</i>	<i>Attended as mat. nurse</i>			
1	42	8	774	178	286
2	41	33	691	165	408
3	48	19	693	159	334
4	37	13	733	174	428
5	33	7	703	168	423
6	38	18	876	217	443
7	34	22	771	226	479
8	44	7	798	162	316
9	4	1	101	25	19
10	7	—	103	22	62
11	32	7	594	133	123
12	15	6	277	91	145
13	23	1	230	61	107
14	10	—	135	36	44

Gas and air analgesia was administered to 5 mothers by the municipal midwives.

Triline was administered to 382 mothers by the municipal midwives and to 266 mothers by the district nurse midwives.

Pethidine was administered to 337 mothers by the municipal midwives and to 242 mothers by the district nurse midwives.

The district nurse midwives are not booked individually, but take the cases in turn. The following is a summary of the work done by them :

<i>No. of cases</i>		<i>No. of morning visits</i>	<i>No. of evening visits</i>	<i>Ante-natal visits</i>	<i>Post-natal visits</i>
<i>Attended as midwife</i>	<i>Attended as mat. nurse</i>				
274	93	4,501	1,308	2,874	575

The following is a synopsis of the above cases :—

	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Live births</i>	<i>Still births</i>	<i>Mis-carriages</i>	<i>Sent to hospital</i>	<i>Maternal deaths</i>
Municipal midwives ..	555	545	10	4	39	—
District Nurse midwives ..	370	365	5	—	20	—
<i>Totals</i> ..	925	910	15	4	59	—

*\*These figures include 5 and 3 sets of twins respectively*

There were 4 cases of puerperal pyrexia among the above.

In 1 case, where a doctor was not previously engaged, medical aid was called by the midwife for the mother.

#### (j) *Post-Natal Clinic*

The clinic is held at the Greenesfield Health Centre, in conjunction with the ante-natal clinic on Wednesday afternoons.

During the year 2 mothers attended.

#### *District Nursing Association (Post-natal Clinic)*

A post-natal clinic is also held at the District Nurses' Home in conjunction with the ante-natal clinic on Tuesday afternoons. During the year 1 mother attended.

#### **Relaxation Classes**

In January, 1961, we commenced relaxation classes for expectant mothers. Initially, these classes were provided for all expectant mothers in the town, but later in the year the hospital authorities elected to run their own relaxation classes for their patients. However, we continued to run relaxation classes on Wednesday afternoons for any of the ante-natal mothers whose children were going to be born at home on the district. In addition to these classes, which are run by the physiotherapist, the midwives take the opportunity of giving talks to the mothers on various aspects of pregnancy and mothercraft. These classes seem to be very much enjoyed by the mothers.

#### **5. Health Visiting**

During 1961 attempts were made by training student health visitors to bring up the staff of health visitors as near as possible to the establish-

ment of 26. As the three student health visitors passed their examination in June and as one former health visitor resumed service after an interval of several years we reached the end of the year with 21 health visitors altogether, and the superintendent.

An opportunity was taken during the year to alter the establishment by providing for two senior posts of senior health visitors, each of whom was to take special charge of the subordinate health centres at Carr Hill and Wrekenton and act as a general adviser to the health visitors attached to the centres.

With the opening of the Wrekenton Health Centre, a number of health visitors in the surrounding districts were based on the two smaller centres so eliminating much of the overcrowding at Greenesfield Health Centre where three rooms had to suffice the establishment of 26 nurses. It is envisaged that when further health centres are opened at Lobley Hill and the Teams area, as projected by the Committee, further devolution of the health visiting staff will be possible, saving much useless travel.

The work of the health visitors in 1961 is analysed in the figures below :—

#### Summary of Home Visits

<i>Infants</i>		<i>At four months</i>			
Born at full term	.. 1,821	Breast fed	..	295	(16.6%)
Prematurely	.. 163	Partially breast fed	..	111	(6.4%)
	<u>1,984</u>	Artificially fed	..	1,337	(77%)

#### *Visits to infants under 1 year*

First visit after notification	..	..	2,009
No. of revisits	..	..	8,557
Visits to children 1 - 2 years	..	..	4,626
Visits to children 2 - 5 years	..	..	12,030

#### *Visits to Expectant Mothers*

First visits	..	..	..	..	366
No. of revisits	..	..	..	..	299

#### *Miscellaneous visits*

Measles	..	..	..	..	2,419
Diarrhoea	..	..	..	..	—
Whooping cough	..	..	..	..	24
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	34
Scabies	..	..	..	..	10
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	510
Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	1
Poliomyelitis inoculation sessions	..	..	..	..	95
Jaundice	..	..	..	..	55
Chickenpox	..	..	..	..	1
Meningitis	..	..	..	..	3
Other visits	..	..	..	..	54
Ineffective visits	..	..	..	..	4,704

The total number of visits by health visitors during the year was 36,819.

There are no special arrangements for the health visitors to work in conjunction with particular practitioners or groups of practitioners but it has been agreed with the practitioners that a direct approach by the health visitor to a practitioner to deal with one of his patients will not



be rebuffed, but will be met in a spirit of co-operation. There are really no special arrangements to follow up persons discharged from hospital except when a request is made by a local consultant. Such requests usually come from the paediatricians.

## 6. Home Nursing

This service is mainly operated from the District Nurses' Home in Coatsworth Road, to cover all the borough with the exception of the outlying district of Wrekenton. The service functions by an agreement with the Gateshead District Nursing Association, on the committee of which the corporation is represented to the proportion of one third of the committee. In Wrekenton, the nurse who lives in one of the houses attached to the Wrekenton Health Centre operates on her own, but is relieved and assisted when necessary by the Gateshead District Nursing Association. The nurse at Wrekenton has had the Queen's training and follows therefore the same techniques.

The staff based on the Nurses' Hostel in Coatsworth Road consisted of the following at the end of the year :—1 superintendent, 1 assistant superintendent, 6 midwives, 1 maternity nurse, 2 pupil midwives, 15 general nurses, 4 male nurses, 3 part-time nurses and 1 state enrolled nurse. It is four short of the establishment but every effort is made to keep the establishment up to strength.

The work of the District Nursing Association staff is given in the accompanying table, which has been compiled by Miss E. Knight, the Superintendent of the Association.

<i>Acute illness</i>		<i>Maternity</i>		<i>Chronic illness</i>		<i>Total</i>	
<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>	<i>Cases nursed</i>	<i>Visits</i>
No. on books at 1st January, 1961		11		325		355	
No. nursed in :							
January	75 672	37 679	414 5,770	526 7,121			
February	58 577	44 663	424 5,569	526 6,809			
March	57 573	42 820	416 5,668	515 7,061			
April	57 568	44 739	416 5,151	517 6,458			
May	55 559	47 830	406 5,237	508 6,626			
June	59 650	48 769	375 4,714	482 6,133			
July	48 446	56 788	374 4,888	478 6,122			
August	40 492	46 788	392 5,052	478 6,332			
September	29 354	52 769	404 5,040	485 6,163			
October	28 285	58 859	392 5,047	478 6,191			
November	37 447	39 761	389 4,807	465 6,015			
December	56 498	40 793	427 5,437	523 6,728			
No. on books at 31st December, 1961		12		352		380	
Total cases nursed and visits paid during the year							
..	411 6,121	431 9,258	1,157 62,380	1,999 77,759			

This table is very similar to the statistical summary of the work of 1960, apart from the tendency of chronic conditions to dominate the nursing, the number of such cases having increased as compared with the previous year.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1 to 5 years</i>	<i>5 to 15 years</i>	<i>15 to 65 years</i>	<i>Over 65 yrs.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Arthritis .. .. .	—	—	—	19	59	78
Anaemia .. .. .	—	—	1	22	61	84
Burns and Scalds .. .. .	1	5	—	7	6	19
Cardiac disease .. .. .	—	—	—	63	86	149
Carcinoma .. .. .	—	1	—	70	63	134
Diabetics on Insulin .. .. .	—	—	—	4	7	11
Disease of C.N.S. .. .. .	—	—	—	8	—	8
E.S.—Constipation .. .. .	1	1	1	27	49	79
E.S.—for diagnostic purposes .. .. .	—	—	—	3	5	8
Fractures .. .. .	—	—	2	5	11	18
Gynaecological .. .. .	—	—	—	5	17	22
Infections—mouth, throat and ear .. .. .	2	4	2	38	4	50
Infectious diseases .. .. .	—	—	—	1	—	1
Miscarriage .. .. .	—	—	—	5	—	5
Maternal complications .. .. .	—	—	—	4	—	4
Pulmonary T.B. .. .. .	—	—	—	28	4	32
Other forms T.B. .. .. .	—	1	—	7	—	8
Phlebitis .. .. .	—	—	—	3	—	3
Post-operative dressings .. .. .	4	10	2	62	33	111
Respiratory diseases .. .. .	1	1	3	98	111	214
Senility .. .. .	—	—	—	1	123	124
Septic conditions .. .. .	1	10	6	94	60	171
Shingles .. .. .	—	—	—	1	1	2
Supra-pubic cystotomy .. .. .	—	—	—	2	41	43
Cer./Cor. thrombosis .. .. .	—	—	—	10	112	122
Others, not diagnosed .. .. .	2	—	2	12	45	61
Urinary infections .. .. .	—	—	1	6	—	7

Of the 1,568 patients who were nursed, 1,114 were medical, 411 were surgical, 4 suffered from complications of pregnancy or the puerperium, 38 from tuberculosis and one from infectious disease. There were in addition 367 maternity cases attended by the district nurse midwives. In 1961, 379 patients were visited in connection with the administration of injections, a circumstance that necessitated 14,533 visits, of which 1,248 had to be made after 8 p.m.

Children are nursed at home only to a very limited extent and no special arrangements have had to be made to assign special nurses to this visitation. Actually 45 children under 5 years and 20 of school age received roughly ten visits each in the course of their illnesses.

The nurses attended the Children's Department of Newcastle General Hospital during the course of their training and received clinical lectures by a paediatrician.



The outlying district of Wrekenton still continues to expand rapidly and is served by a whole-time district nurse who makes extensive use of her car in covering the district. During 1961 the nurse looked after 170 patients, 47 medical, 21 surgical, 2 suffering from tuberculosis and 100 other casual patients. She put in 2,641 visits.

### *Laundry Service*

In October, arrangements were completed whereby the District Nursing Association entered into an agreement with the Hospital Management Committee for the laundering of bed linen soiled by incontinent patients being nursed at home. The District Nursing Association is responsible for the transport and pays a nominal sum for each load which is processed in the hospital laundry and finally collected again by the District Nursing Association vehicle.

This service is entirely controlled by the Matron of the District Nursing Association, who will provide it only in those cases where there is no other possible method of covering the need. The arrangement has been deliberately worked out so as to prevent the usual snowball effect of an increasing demand which usually follows on the introduction of some necessary provision. In other words, where there are relatives capable of doing the laundry the service will not be supplied on their behalf. It is intended purely for those persons who are not able to receive this help while being nursed in their own homes.

## **7. Home Help Service**

At the end of the year the home help service consisted of the supervisor assistant supervisor, 4 permanent full-time helps and 100 part-time helps. No male home helps are now employed. Most of the home helps are engaged for roughly 23 hours per week, as compared with the full-time working week of 38 hours. Although the establishment is restricted to the equivalent of 80 full-time helps, the Medical Officer of Health has standing permission to recruit seasonal employees in excess of the establishment in the event of acute emergencies such as an influenza epidemic.

Expenditure on the service in 1961 was estimated at £20,595, and the probable receipts at £800, these figures being an increase on the estimated expenditure and a decrease in the probable receipts on the figures for 1960.

Reference was made last year to the change in the arrangements for the supply of a maternity home help, as a result of which it seems that the number of maternity cases making use of the service has doubled. There is still, however, room for improvement.

The Home Help Service continues to afford special help to the various problem families, especially in the care of the children and in the management of the domestic finances,



HOME HELP SERVICE, 1961

Month	Maternity				Acute				Chronic				Tuberculosis				Totals	
	Part time	Full time	Total cases atten- ded	Total days	Part time	Full time	Total cases atten- ded	Total days	Part time	Full time	Total cases atten- ded	Total days	Part time	Full time	Total cases atten- ded	Total days	Cases	Days
January ..	—	6	6	27	13	—	13	24	521	—	—	1,018	3	—	3	2	543	1,071
February ..	—	7	7	50	24	—	24	45	534	—	—	976	3	—	3	—	568	1,071
March ..	—	7	7	40	28	—	28	52	537	—	—	1,068	3	—	3	3	575	1,163
April ..	—	5	5	28	27	—	27	38	530	—	—	958	3	—	3	2	565	1,026
May ..	—	2	2	14	29	—	29	56	543	—	—	1,080	3	—	3	4	576	1,154
June ..	—	3	3	14	27	—	27	56	550	—	—	1,024	3	—	3	2	583	1,096
July ..	—	7	7	40	21	—	21	36	551	—	—	928	3	—	3	1	582	1,005
August ..	—	6	6	36	16	—	16	16	552	—	—	887	2	—	2	2	576	941
September ..	—	4	4	18	16	—	16	14	546	—	—	924	1	—	1	2	567	958
October ..	—	4	4	15	13	—	13	17	554	—	—	1,038	1	—	1	4	572	1,074
November ..	—	5	5	35	16	—	16	24	564	—	—	1,026	2	—	2	6	587	1,091
December ..	—	7	7	38	17	—	17	23	560	—	—	942	5	—	5	11	589	1,014

	Cases on books	New cases	Total cases		Total days given
			helped during 1961	ded	
Maternity ..	1.1.61	49	52	—	355
Chronic ..	3	227	715	—	11,869
Acute ..	488	75	85	—	401
Tuberculosis ..	10	4	7	—	39
	3				
	504	355	859		12,664

Mrs. Maitland, the Supervisor of Home Helps, has furnished the following report on the service in 1961 :—

“The total number of cases attended during 1961 was 859.

Chronic illness .. ..	715
Acute illness and tuberculosis .. ..	92
Maternity .. ..	52

The number of cases on the books at 31st December was 508.

Chronic illness .. ..	490
Acute illness and tuberculosis .. ..	15
Maternity .. ..	3

More than 300 of the aged and chronic sick are between the ages of 80 and 90 years, 20 being over 90 years. Many of these old people have to be given daily help. This would be impossible if it were not for the sympathy and kindness shown to them by the home helps for they so much want to remain in their own homes. Far too few are allowed meals from the Women's Voluntary Service. Only 60 out of 500 of our aged and chronic sick are having such a meal once a week. During the winter months great help would be given to the department if the number of dinners could be increased. Our old people have been given much relief and pleasure from the chiropody service”.

## 8. Chiropody Service

This service began with the provision of two weekly sessions at Greenesfield Health Centre in April, 1960. In the ensuing months attendances were very meagre, in spite of publicity to the local practitioners and hospitals, but gradually the facilities became known as the famous “Snowball effect” became manifest, so that in April the sessions were increased to 20 per month and by the end of the year arrangements were in progress to provide additional sessions at the Carr Hill and Wrekenton Health Centres.

As the type of patient requiring chiropody is treated he becomes more or less permanently a case for chiropody and all that the chiropodist can do is to lengthen the period between the treatments as far as possible.

During 1961, no fewer than 1,783 treatments were given, and of these 362 were treatments given to patients attending for the first time.

## 9. Vaccination and Immunisation

Of growing importance in the last ten years has been the work of the local authority medical staff and of the local family practitioners in securing the vaccination and immunisation of the population against the common infectious diseases, which unfortunately would still menace a susceptible community. Each child is offered in its first year of life the following immunisation procedures. Vaccination against smallpox at about three months, triple immunisation against diphtheria, whooping



cough and tetanus by monthly injections from the fourth to the sixth months, poliomyelitis inoculations or oral vaccination from eight months to twelve months, and to this most comprehensive cover there is added B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis for infants and young children who are specially exposed to the risk of tuberculosis infection. Due to the absence of infectious disease as a result of the primary immunisation of children, the secondary stimuli which would reinforce the basic immunity are lacking. It is therefore necessary in school life to re-awaken the immunity by further doses of the immunising substances against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis.

In making these offers the public are reminded of their importance to the growing child, and there is no narrow channelling of the offer to the local authority medical arrangements alone. The service works in collaboration with the family practitioners, who may give the necessary prophylactic treatments at their surgeries or even perhaps in the homes of their patients. This means that the only reason why a child should face these infectious diseases without any basic immunity is the carelessness and neglect of the parents, and in the light of modern circumstances it would seem almost criminal for a child to be denied by the parents the protection that is available for him. There are, however, one or two factors which may lead to the alteration of the basic programme already laid down. Children who suffer from allergy, as for instance asthma or eczema, may have to be the subject of special consideration before smallpox vaccination is performed, and the like hesitancy may be necessary in the case of children who are receiving treatment by the steroid drugs. It may be that in such cases the smallpox vaccination should be performed only when the children have been in actual or presumed contact with cases of smallpox.

In school life the local authority scheme of B.C.G. Vaccination offers to children in their second last year at school the protection of a living non-virulent vaccine injected into the skin of those who are not already infected with tuberculosis. The object of this B.C.G. vaccination is to build up the defences against tuberculosis in persons who are about to enter industry with its many contacts, including the possibilities of infection by the tubercle bacilli derived from persons who are either the victims of chronic tuberculosis or early infective tuberculosis so far undiagnosed. In the preliminary to B.C.G. Vaccination it is necessary to subject the volunteers to tuberculin testing, a process which indicates the presence of past infection, and it is worthy of note that very gradually the number of those already infected with tuberculosis has been falling in recent years, an index of the control of infectious tuberculosis that is taking place in the community. Those who are so infected are referred to the chest clinics for investigation and x-ray examination.

At the beginning of school life associated with the primary school medical examination, an additional effort is made to locate tuberculosis infection by tuberculin testing those children whose parents agree to the procedure, and it is noteworthy that the number of entrant school children who are infected with tuberculosis is showing a sharp decline. The presence of a positive tuberculin test in an entrant school child surely means that this child has been already inoculated with B.C.G. vaccination



as a protection against possible infection, but in the exceptional case where the positive tuberculin test is a natural phenomenon the indications are for a thorough investigation of the family contacts and other possible sources of infection.

With all the work that has been done in connection with vaccination and immunisation it is a matter of self-congratulation that no untoward incidents were reported during 1961.

(a) *Vaccination against smallpox*

During 1961, 1,126 persons were vaccinated and 144 re-vaccinated. The numbers included 909 infants under one year, 93 other children under school age, 38 school children and 86 adults. Adults accounted for 123 of the re-vaccinated. Out of 1,984 infants born in 1961, it would appear that 909 or 45.8 per cent had been vaccinated, a considerable improvement on recent years.

695 primary vaccinations were carried out by the local authority medical staff and 431 by the family practitioners. All but 12 of the re-vaccinations were carried out by the family doctors and had to do with emigration.

(b) *Immunisation against Diphtheria*

During 1961, 1,416 children under 5 and 472 children of school age, a total of 1,888, completed a full course of immunisation. 795 children received the "booster" injection of the diphtheria toxoid to stimulate the immunity mechanism when they first attended school.

Of the inoculations against diphtheria, 1,337 were carried out by local authority staff and 551 by the general practitioners. At the end of 1961, out of 9,100 pre-school children, only 4,387 or 48.2 per cent had completed a primary course of immunisation, and out of 15,300 school children, 10,482 or 68.5 per cent had completed a primary course of immunisation. In addition "booster" doses of diphtheria prophylactic were given to 795 children, 702 by local authority staff and 93 by general practitioners. Altogether 14,869 children out of some 24,400 have been protected against diphtheria, a percentage of 61.9.

The prophylactics in use were the combined triple antigen and the formal toxoid manufactured by the Glaxo Laboratories and Burroughs Wellcome.

(c) *Immunisation against Whooping Cough*

During 1961, 1,427 children were given the complete course of whooping cough prophylactics. Of this total 881 received injections from the local authority medical staff and 546 from the general practitioners of the area.

From the table reproduced herewith there seems to be no doubt that whooping cough protection against both mortality and morbidity is now adequate as a result of the immunising schemes.

## Trend of Whooping Cough in relation to Immunisation

Year	Births	Completed immunisations	No. of Cases		
			Total	No. who had completed immunisation	No. of deaths
1940	1,951	—	131	—	3
1941	1,853	—	793	—	22
1942	1,835	—	89	—	1
1943	1,917	—	435	—	8
1944	2,219	—	301	—	2
1945	2,097	—	220	—	2
1946	2,164	—	356	—	4
1947	2,756	756	349	—	11
1948	2,439	920	334	38	1
1949	2,265	1,020	67	4	1
1950	2,117	743	351	24	3
1951	2,185	1,082	231	17	—
1952	1,993	501	246	21	—
1953	2,033	1,023	513	53	2
1954	1,951	996	61	11	—
1955	1,916	1,002	520	56	—
1956	1,951	933	356	53	—
1957	2,064	1,021	99	16	—
1958	1,984	1,081	125	15	—
1959	2,011	1,255	214	19	—
1960	1,973	1,100	29	11	—
1961	1,984	1,427	35	11	—

Notification and Attack Rates of Whooping Cough  
in children under 5 years

Year	Estimated population	Total No. of notified cases	Attack Rate per 1,000 of group population	No. of children under 5 immunised	Notified and verified as immun- ised cases	Attack Rate per 1,000 immun- ised	Deaths under 5 years
1946	9,000	276	30.7	—	—	—	4*
1947	9,930	272	27.4	685	—	—	11*
1948	10,203	260	25.4	1,555	9	5.7	1*
1949	10,540	54	5.1	2,284	3	1.3	1*
1950	10,890	224	20.6	2,786	11	3.9	3*
1951	10,920	171	15.6	3,130	16	5.1	—
1952	10,100	162	16.0	2,792	17	6.0	—
1953	9,700	356	36.7	2,904	34	11.7	2*
1954	9,600	44	4.6	3,020	3	.9	—
1955	9,300	345	37.	3,119	27	8.6	—
1956	9,100	230	25.27	3,094	27	8.7	—
1957	9,000	73	8.1	3,582	11	3.07	—
1958	9,100	87	9.56	3,793	11	2.9	—
1959	9,000	139	15.4	4,096	12	2.9	—
1960	9,100	23	2.5	4,213	11	2.6	—
1961	9,100	25	2.7	4,618	8	1.7	—

\* None of the fatal cases had been previously immunised



(d) *Immunisation against Tetanus*

Using the triple antigen, 1,444 children have been immunised against tetanus, 540 by the family doctor and the remainder by the local authority medical staff. 23 children received prophylactic inoculations against tetanus and diphtheria only. Among 24,400 children under 15 in the Borough, approximately 5,332 have been immunised against tetanus, or 21.8 per cent. This is a percentage that will increase with the use of the triple antigen.

(e) *Poliomyelitis Vaccination*

The work of immunising the population by injections of Salk Vaccine continued in 1961, but there was a prospect that in 1962 the oral live vaccine processed according to the methods of Dr. Sabin would become available. At the same time there was also evident a move to make a quadruple antigen by joining diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough antigens with the proper dose of Salk Vaccine. Three injections of this mixture it seemed would be an appropriate technique of immunisation against the four diseases.

In 1961, 2,951 children 18 years old and under were given a full course of poliomyelitis vaccination, 1,931 by the local authority medical staff and 1,020 by the general practitioners. In addition to these, 547 persons aged between 18 and 27 were also immunised, 358 by the family practitioners and 189 by the local authority staff. Adults over 28 to the number of 1,069 and 224 adults over 41 were immunised, 876 of these, however, being dealt with by the family practitioners. In a similar manner school children and others received the third injection recommended to the number of 4,271. Of this number 1,796 were inoculated by the family doctors. Young adults to the number of 440 were given stimulating doses of poliomyelitis vaccine, 107 by local authority staff and 333 by general practitioners. Older adults to the number of 589 were inoculated also by the third dose, but in 439 instances this was done by the family practitioners.

(f) *B.C.G. Vaccination*

In 1961, 1,824 children born in the year 1947, were offered protective vaccination, and 1,119 were submitted to the skin test. Of this number 174 (15.5 per cent) proved to be positive reactors and therefore unsuitable for B.C.G. Vaccination. Of the remaining 945 non-reactors, 896 were vaccinated with B.C.G. Freeze Dried Vaccine during the year.

Out of the 174 tuberculin reactors, 171 were examined by chest x-ray with the following results :—calcified foci in 25, healed primary lesion 1, tuberculous knee 1, pleural patch 1, referred to chest clinic 4, already under observation 1, nothing abnormal detected 138.

Children born in the year 1946 and attending Grammar Schools and private schools in the Borough were also offered protective vaccination, and 261 were submitted to the skin test. Of this number 40 (15.3 per cent) proved to be positive reactors and therefore unsuitable for B.C.G. Vaccination. Of the remaining 221 non-reactors, 214 were vaccinated.



Out of the 40 tuberculin reactors, 39 were x-rayed with the following results :—calcified hilar nodes 4, referred to chest clinic 1, nothing abnormal detected 34.

It is interesting to compare the percentages of positive reactors in this age group from year to year, as shown in the following table :—

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Skin tested . .	948	858	800	640	736	1,427	1,380
Positive reactors	293	255	187	136	190	313	214
Percentage positive reactors . .	30.9	29.8	23.4	21.5	25.8	21.9	15.5

### *Vaccination of contacts*

244 young contacts of notified cases of tuberculosis were skin tested through the Chest Clinic Service, and of these 16 were found to be positive reactors and 210 negative reactors. Altogether 303 contacts were given B.C.G. inoculation (including 93 new-born babies). 13 nurses on the staff of the local hospitals were given B.C.G. immunisation as a pre-cautionary measure.

## **10. Municipal Ambulance Service**

In 1961 the demands on the ambulance service continued to increase, as shown by a marked increase in the number of patients carried and the number of miles entailed in the transport of patients. These increases are the result of the development of the local Gateshead and District hospitals, and in particular Dunston Hill Hospital, which is now considered to be one of the three general hospitals available to the people of south Tyneside.

During 1961 conversations were held with authorities of the Royal Victoria Infirmary in order to speed up some of the discharges from that institution, which has to deal with a large number of ambulance services bringing patients in for treatment, both inpatient and outpatient. So far as Gateshead is concerned, an agreement has been made in regard to the discharge of patients and the ambulance personnel were given a form of indemnity by the Board of Governors of the Royal Victoria Infirmary to go to the wards and help to transport patients from the wards or departments to the ambulances.

A demand that came to be filled by the ambulance service was the transport of handicapped persons to Holly House at the instance of the welfare services department. This service started in 1958, and entails the collection in the early afternoon of a number of handicapped persons in a clinic ambulance and a journey to the handicapped persons' social centre, whence they have to be collected in the late afternoon and taken home. The development of this social service is not yet at an end, and it appears that further demands will be made in respect of the highly disabled persons who may need more individual arrangements. This matter was still under consideration at the end of the year.

During 1961, a clinic ambulance was replaced by a dual purpose ambulance and a sitting case car was replaced by a modern vehicle.

## Staff

In 1961, Mr. J. Nesbit, the Ambulance Officer, retired, and was succeeded by his deputy Mr. H. Fletcher, both these gentlemen being foundation members of the ambulance personnel. The vacant position of assistant ambulance officer was filled by the promotion of Mr. C. Smith, hitherto a senior driver, and one of the longest serving drivers was promoted to be a senior driver. The staff of the ambulance service at the end of the year consisted of one ambulance officer, one assistant ambulance officer, four senior drivers, 25 ambulance drivers and one ambulance clerk, which is an increase of three drivers on the normal establishment and results from the reduction of the working week for ambulance personnel and the increase of pressure of work.

## Cost of the Service in 1961

The estimated cost of the service was £35,730, as against £32,825 in 1960. Revenue, including charges to other authorities for return journeys from Gateshead hospitals, amounted to £4,600, an increase on the figure for last year. The net cost of the service to Gateshead was therefore £31,130, compared with £28,485 in 1960. Charges made to other authorities were maintained at 3/-s. a mile for a stretcher ambulance and 1/6d. a mile for a sitting case car. These charges are based on an actuarial report of the Borough Treasurer.

## Work of the Service in 1961

The following summarises the work of the ambulance service carried out during the year :—

	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Other persons</i>	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Transport by ambulance .. .. .	26,110	210	5,928	77,883
(accident emergencies included in above)	(1,301)			
Transport by sitting case car .. .. .	5,663	515	1,663	47,312
(accident emergencies included in above)	(21)			
Transport by clinic ambulance .. .. .	15,977	14,169	2,863	53,879
(accident emergencies included in above)	(61)			
Service journeys .. .. .	—	—	642	5,122
(Home disinfections—nil)				
Transport of beds etc. .. .. .	—	—	18	102
Midwives transport and transport of analgesia apparatus .. .. .	—	—	1,098	9,251
	47,750	14,894	12,212	193,549

The term 'service journeys' is used to cover individual demands where no patients are carried, but only items of equipment. It also includes false calls or journeys undertaken to remove patients who refuse to travel to hospital.

### Transport Chargeable to Other Authorities

	<i>Patients</i>	<i>Journeys</i>	<i>Miles</i>
Ambulances .. .. .	758	599	4,671
Sitting case cars .. .. .	1,126	916	17,096
Clinic ambulances .. .. .	1,046	740	5,562
	2,930	2,255	27,329



**Petrol Consumption** .. .. . 11,781 gallons

This amount includes 19 gallons issued to other authorities, 42 gallons to Civil Defence and 4 gallons issued to us from other authorities.

### *Vehicles*

The service consisted of 7 stretcher ambulances, 4 clinic ambulances, 3 sitting case cars, 1 utility van and 3 civil defence ambulances.

#### **Patients carried and Mileage completed since the inception of the Service**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Patients and other persons</i>	<i>Miles</i>
1944		31,848
1945		53,080
1946		65,655
1947		79,979
1948		105,702
1949	27,576	149,557
1950	30,117	170,686
1951	29,820	172,806
1952	32,147	173,218
1953	43,702	171,576
1954	44,130	171,436
1955	51,368	173,904
1956	60,498	192,209
1957	60,571	188,152
1958	54,835	177,198
1959	55,831	179,090
1960	59,817	190,468
1961	62,644	193,549

## **11. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care**

### *(a) Tuberculosis*

The provision for the problem of tuberculosis consists of the chest clinic located at the former Whinney House Tuberculosis Hospital now given over to geriatrics, together with an Odelca 100 mm. Camera Unit situated in the former tuberculosis dispensary within the grounds of Greenesfield House. These two provisions are staffed by nursing personnel employed by the Local Authority and by a clerk whose main duty is to operate the Odelca Camera Unit and to do the clerical work in connection with this. This unit carried out a very satisfactory year of service as shown by the following figures :—

#### **Odelca X-ray Unit — Returns for Year 1961**

<i>Referred from :—</i>	<i>No. x-rayed</i>				<i>Referred to Chest Clinic</i>			
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>Total</i>
General practitioners	1,310	1,092	29	2,431	278	145	2	425
School Medical Officer	1	—	176	177	—	—	10	10
General Public ..	232	489	5	726	18	32	—	50
Industrial and other groups .. ..	247	258	—	505	7	8	—	15
Contacts :								
Remote .. ..	49	84	9	142	6	6	1	13
Domestic .. ..	62	105	11	178	6	4	1	11
Army intakes ..	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	1
Chest clinic (known cases—recovered etc.) .. ..	3	4	—	7	1	1	—	2
<i>Totals .. ..</i>	<i>1,905</i>	<i>2,032</i>	<i>230</i>	<i>4,167</i>	<i>317</i>	<i>196</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>527</i>



The special categories of expectant mothers and young children are not examined at the Odelca Unit, arrangements having been made for the children to have a full x-ray at Whinney House, while expectant mothers and young babies are examined at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital on Saturday mornings.

The Odelca Unit is however used for the examination of 'leaver' school children found to be tuberculin reactors and also for local authority employees in connection with superannuation examinations.

The Odelca Camera Unit was open at the following times :—

Monday to Friday .. .. .	.. 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.
Monday and Thursday Evenings ..	.. 5.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m.

The Newcastle Mass Miniature Radiography Units, have also operated in the area during the year and I am indebted to Mr. Pegg, the Unit Secretary, for the following account of the work done for Gateshead people.

"During the year the Newcastle Mobile van visited 9 industrial establishments, also providing facilities there for neighbouring firms, x-raying 2,501 volunteers which resulted in the discovery of 3 cases of tuberculosis requiring treatment or close clinic supervision and 2 cases requiring occasional supervision. In addition, General Public sessions were held at 4 locations ; 453 persons were X-rayed and no tuberculous abnormalities have been advised to date.

In addition, the Regional Caravan Unit visited 6 industrial establishments, mainly for contact purposes, x-raying 659 volunteers resulting in the discovery of 1 active case of tuberculosis. Visits to Fountain View, Birchholme and Beacon View Old People's Homes were also carried out as were General Public sessions at 3 sites previously inaccessible to the large x-ray van. A total of 808 persons were x-rayed at all these sessions.

The work may be summarised as follows :—

<i>Groups</i>				<i>No. x-rayed</i>	<i>Ref. to C.C.</i>	<i>Tuberculosis</i>	
						<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Occasional supervision</i>
Industrial .. .. .	..	..	..	3,160	38	4	2
Welfare Homes .. .. .	..	..	..	267	11	—	—
General Public .. .. .	..	..	..	994	10	—	1
<i>Total</i> .. .. .	..	..	..	4,421	59	4	3

No cases of bronchial carcinoma were discovered during the year".

### *Medical Research Council Project*

The local chest physicians collaborated with the medical officer of health in presenting the results of the special project that was carried out from 1956 to 1960 under the aegis of the Medical Research Council, and papers were given on the subject at a meeting of the Royal Society of Medicine on February 17th. The conclusions were that as skin testing of infants and young children involved an extraordinary amount of work

there was a case for restriction to school entrants and as a preliminary to B.C.G. immunisation. In both instances the positive reactors should be submitted to clinical examination and x-ray while their contacts should be investigated for possible infectivity. It was held that the most fruitful field for the ascertainment of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis was through the ready reference of patients with chest symptoms of any kind to the mass x-ray unit, and it was felt to be worth while to have the practitioners refer all male patients of 50 years and over who suffered any illness. An important feature was the necessity to continue the supervision of completely cured and inactive cases because of the possibility of a breakdown. This applied especially to the cases who had recovered spontaneously without a course of the new anti-tuberculin drugs. The other striking feature of the survey was the shrinkage of the pool of chronic infectious cases consequent on improved chemotherapy and the dying out of the victims from various causes.

The table given herewith illustrates the great fall in the mortality and incidence of tuberculosis, which must be considered as yet another infection about to disappear from the human scene.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Pulmonary notifications</i>	<i>Pulmonary deaths</i>	<i>T.B.—</i>	<i>T.B.+</i>	<i>Total cases</i>
1936	201	104	80	106	186
1937	178	118	68	95	163
1938	208	115	72	100	172
1939	183	119	77	101	178
1940	206	129	65	92	157
1941	207	128	93	75	168
1942	208	107	89	107	196
1943	219	106	90	111	201
1944	244	122	125	106	231
1945	218	98	103	99	202
1946	228	75	111	108	219
1947	237	93	119	107	226
1948	232	99	128	98	226
1949	250	91	157	91	248
1950	220	64	139	83	222
1951	227	47	152	74	226
1952	256	45	159	84	243
1953	266	29	155	112	267
1954	201	38	115	86	201
1955	166	23	105	61	166
1956	242	18	148	94	242
1957	125	19	66	59	125
1958	121	23	62	59	121
1959	124	19	66	58	124
1960	116	6	74	42	116
1961	95	7	51	44	95

At the end of 1961, the Gateshead Chest Clinic registers contained the names of 1,096 persons, of whom 996 were cases suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis and 100 from non-pulmonary disease. The pulmonary cases included 521 males, 394 females and 81 children, and the non-pulmonary cases included 33 males, 51 females and 16 children.

#### *B.C.G. Vaccination of Contacts*

During the year, 934 young domestic contacts of cases of tuberculosis were submitted to the tuberculin test. 731 of these infants proved



already to have been infected. The 203 negative reactors were vaccinated with the B.C.G. preparation, 93 babies under 6 weeks, 13 nurses in the local hospitals and 1 other member of the hospitals' staff were similarly vaccinated. Three children were re-vaccinated.

### *B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children*

This protection was offered to all school children in the 14th year. In 1961 it was therefore the turn of children born in 1947, of whom 1,824 were offered vaccination, 1,214 accepted, 1119, were tested, 945 proved to be suitable and of these 896 were given B.C.G. In addition to these, 264 children attending the Grammar Schools and private schools within the Borough accepted the offer of vaccination and 261 were tested 221 proved to be suitable and of these 214 were given B.C.G. vaccination.

In 1961 it is worthy of note that the appropriate skin testing of entrant school children resulted in the detection of two positive reactors belonging to households in which there was extensive infection by tuberculosis. In one case the child's mother had extensive tuberculosis with cavitation and involvement of practically the entire right lung and three children and possibly four had some evidence of pulmonary infection which required hospital care. In the other family, three children, aged 1 year, 4 years and 9 years, had active pulmonary lesions and one some pleural thickening. Two of these required treatment in hospital and the others were put on domiciliary treatment. The father and mother of this family were both examined and found free from infection, and urgent efforts were made to have a lodger x-rayed because he was reported to be ill with chest trouble, but he died suddenly and at post-mortem examination his lungs were found to be riddled with cavitating tuberculosis.

### *Infectious Tuberculosis*

From the record of the chest clinic there seemed to be 68 cases of infectious tuberculosis, 44 being men and 24 women. Included in the figures are the known chronic infectors, 5 males and 1 female and only these six present any real danger to the community.

### *Assistance to the Tuberculous*

In 1961, 19 special recommendations were added to those already lodged with the housing department for priority of rehousing. During 1961 some 16 were so rehoused and this forms 4.98 per cent of the corporation houses let to new tenants.

The tuberculous made very little demand on the voluntary fund for assistance with clothing, neither was there any request for the loan of invalid aids.

The Invalid Care Committee controls the voluntary funds accrued from donations over the years and augmented by the sale of Xmas Seals by the clerical staff of the Health Department. A small proportion of the money collected is referred to the National Association for Heart and Chest Diseases, but the bulk is retained for the local authority uses to give financial help where this is needed and where it cannot be provided



within the National Health scheme, *e.g.* one man was assisted in the payment for dentures.

From this fund also were provided vouchers for groceries to the value of 30/s. for each necessitous household in which there was an incapacitated tuberculous patient, and a donation of 5/-s. was sent to every tuberculous patient from the Borough who was in hospital at Christmas. Altogether the sum of £223 14s. 9d. was disbursed during 1961. The monies collected from the sale of Xmas Seals amounted to £85 3s. 2d., including donations.

In the matter of giving financial help to the tuberculous families, the Assistance Board officers have given every assistance and have co-operated freely with the local authority officers in seeing that no case of tuberculosis was neglected or suffered as a result of financial stringency.

### *Venereal Disease*

In connection with the work of the special clinic at the Newcastle General Hospital, the health visiting service is used to trace contacts and follow up defaulters. There was one contact referred during the year for follow-up. There were 62 defaulters, involving 142 visits, and in addition 7 visits were made in connection with 7 quinquennial cases.

### *Invalid Aids*

A very busy section of the Local Authority responsibility under the National Health Service Act concerns the supply of invalid aids. These are normally issued where the doctor or the Matron of the Nursing Association feels that they are necessary. The actual supervision of the issue of the invalid aids is carried out by the Supervisor of the Home Help Service. In a great number of cases the items listed are issued for longer periods of chronic illness and there is, as a result, a considerable wastage due to normal wear and tear, so that fresh supplies of certain appliances are constantly having to be purchased.

During 1961, the following items were issued on loan :—

Bed pans .. ..	106	Feeding cups .. ..	1
Back rests .. ..	60	Mattresses .. ..	1
Rubber sheets .. ..	86	Bed cages .. ..	7
Air rings and sponge rings	62	Wheel chairs .. ..	19
Commodore .. ..	5	Iron bedsteads .. ..	4
Urinals .. ..	55	Plastic mattress covers	1
Pr. Crutches .. ..	2		

### *Convalescent Holiday Treatment*

The Local Authority may arrange a convalescent holiday for invalids who are recommended this form of treatment by their own doctors and who are unable themselves to procure such treatment. During 1961, 60 applications were received and dealt with as follows :—

- 28 cases admitted to Proctor Memorial Home, Shotley Bridge.
- \*12 cases admitted to Rose Joicey Convalescent Home, Whitburn.
- 1 case admitted to St. Camillus Hospital, Hexham.
- 19 applications were withdrawn (either as unsuitable or for personal reasons).

\*Not included in this number were 7 children who accompanied their mothers.

The cost of the service was £441 17s. 9d. and the sum of £127 10s. 10d. was assessed as recoverable. Actually £104 12s. 2d. had been recovered by the end of the year. This compares with £517 5s. 0d., being the cost of the service in 1960, when 51 patients were accommodated and the amount of £91 0s. 6d. assessed as recoverable.

No charge was made to the local authority by the Hospital Board for the patient accommodated in St. Camillus Hospital.

Six cases were assessed as liable to pay the full cost, 26 part of the cost and in 8 cases no charge was made.

## 12. Mental Health

### (a) *Administration*

Under the statutory health committee the mental health committee deals with the detailed administration of the local authority services in the field of mental health.

The staffing of the mental health activities continues to be by way of three mental welfare officers, two male and one female, who have been renamed "mental welfare officers" to carry out their duties under the Mental Health Act of 1959. The local authority also employs the staff of the two training centres, each with a qualified supervisor assisted by subordinates of various experiences.

The council is indebted to Dr. McCoull, the Medical Superintendent of Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital for his skilled advice and assistance in the assessment and treatment of the mentally subnormal patients known to the Borough, whom he sees at regular clinical sessions at the health department. In a similar manner, Dr. Justice, the Medical Superintendent Psychiatrist of St. Mary's Hospital, has given great assistance to the officers of the authority in dealing with the problem of mental illness. St. Mary's Hospital, it must be remembered, is the hospital designated by the Regional Hospital Board to serve the Gateshead area for the reception and treatment of mentally ill persons.

The ascertainment and education of subnormal children of school age is of course primarily the responsibility of the Education Committee of the Local Authority and its medical and tutorial staff. The subnormal children who are found to be completely ineducable are notified to the Health Committee at regular intervals and transferred to the care of the health visitors until they reach the age of sixteen years when they are transferred to the care of the mental welfare officers. The subnormal children attending special schools and classes are the responsibility of the health visitors and school nurses each working her own district, but at the end of school life an assessment is made of the educable subnormal children and in appropriate cases their names are earmarked for the necessary supervision from the mental welfare officers.

Even in the educational system it has been found useful to have a child with behaviour tendencies admitted for closer observation to the prognosis unit at Prudhoe Hospital under Dr. McCoull, whose opinion then becomes invaluable in deciding whether a child is educable or not.



The personnel of the mental welfare sub-committee is given below: —

*Chairman :* ALD. P. S. HANCOCK

COUN. W. COLLINS  
ALD. W. F. BARRON  
ALD. A. CROSSLEY  
ALD. J. T. ETHERINGTON  
ALD. MRS. E. A. HARDY

ALD. J. HUTCHISON  
ALD. B. N. YOUNG  
COUN. MRS. M. BELL  
COUN. W. HARLAND  
COUN. MRS. A. E. JEWITT

(b) *Staff*

The three mental welfare officers are Miss Ogden and Messrs. Gray and Winship, who provide a 24-hour cover for seven days a week, and one of whom must be available to act in emergency when called by telephone.

In the Old Fold Junior Training Centre, Mrs. Moore, who had become a qualified supervisor, was placed in charge, in succession to Miss McDermott. She was assisted by a staff of four assistant supervisors, of whom one may be selected for further training to become a qualified supervisor.

In the spring of the year the South Close Adult Training Centre for males was opened, under the charge of Mr. F. Herdman, who has gradually built up his staff and the numbers in attendance, so that at the end of the year there were 17 pupils, and he was assisted in this work by two assistant supervisors, both of whom are craftsmen.

(c) *Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee.*

Friendly relations continued with the officers of the Regional Board and its hospitals in regard to the care of subnormal persons. There have, however, been occasions when patients have been discharged or liberated without a proper consideration of the environmental background to which the patient had to return. It is urged that in every case of the proposed discharge of a subnormal patient the local authority medical staff should be given intimation of the projected discharge and an opportunity to state their reaction to the proposition.

(d) *Voluntary Associations*

There is still no voluntary association collaborating with the Borough's mental health department, apart from the Citizen's Advice Bureau and the Women's Voluntary Services.

(e) *Training of Staff*

Mr. Gray, who has now had considerable experience in dealing with problems of mental health is attending the lengthy course of further instruction sponsored by the National Association for Mental Health in conjunction with the authorities of Leeds in 1962. Mr. Winship attended a five-day course at Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital conducted by Dr. McCoull for Mental Welfare Workers.



(f) *Mental Health Act, 1959*

As foreshadowed in the report of last year, the local authority embarked on a considerable development and improvement of the facilities provided for the training of persons of subnormal intelligence. The opening of a new training centre for adult males removed many of the older male defectives from the occupation centre and left room for the admission of juniors. Under new management the junior training centre has prospered and the numbers in attendance are approaching the maximum potential, while at the new South Close Adult Training Centre for males the ultimate intention is to give instruction to some 30 pupils. Very excellent work has been done by both these training centres, and people are now showing an interest in the productions. An exhibition of the work done in the Adult Training Centre during its very short period of existence attracted much favourable comment from the persons who visited Greenesfield Health Centre to inspect the goods on show. These ranged from raffia chairs and blanket boxes to rugs and toys. Similarly at the Junior Training Centre an open day revealed a considerable production of articles which had a saleable value. As a result of this experience, the possibility of incentive payments to the pupils in attendance has been raised and it is probable that the Health Committee will encourage this type of work, which gives dignity and a feeling of usefulness to the trainees of these centres. It is notable indeed that when such schemes are in being the attendance at the centres improves considerably.

Both centres mentioned are old wartime nursery buildings and there have been difficulties with the heating, especially in the winter months. Originally the heating was by closed coal stoves, but after going into the matter the Committee replaced these and installed an electric radiative heating with considerable benefit to the staff and trainees.

The Council has decided not to make special hostel provision for either subnormal or mentally disturbed persons. It expects that such persons will be dealt with like any other persons under care and attention in the welfare hostels of the Local Authority. During 1961 only one case suitable for a hostel came to light in the person of a boy who was the responsibility of the Children's Department and who reached the age of 18 years and was therefore homeless. This boy was not thought suitable for admission to an institution, but after a short time resident in the welfare hostel he was admitted to Prudhoe Hospital at the instance of the Director of Welfare Services.

Statistics of the operation of the mental health service in relation to patients are given in the following pages, but it is worth while at this moment to have a special look at a great gap in the mental health legislation.

In this connection reference is specially made to the position of young female persons afflicted by mental subnormality. Under the former Mental Deficiency Acts it was possible to treat those considered to be exposed to moral dangers as persons to be placed under guardianship or sent to an institution. Today no such power exists, and the following records are quoted to show what is actually occurring in the context to which attention is now drawn:—



1. "E.M." born 11.1.35, was ascertained in 1944 to have an I.Q. of 60%, and admitted to a special class in which she failed to progress. She was then notified as ineducable in 1947. She was found work on several occasions but this has not been permanent. This girl, while living with her parents, became pregnant and gave birth to illegitimate children in 1956, 1957 and 1958. The infants were in turn absorbed into the parental household. On 9.8.61. she married a man much older than herself and went to his house with her children. On 16.10.61 she left her husband and sought admission to an appropriate hospital on 18.10.61, leaving her children with her parents. On 8.11.61 she was discharged to the home of her parents, who promptly made her go back to her husband. On 21.11.61 she came to the health department in a distressed state with her two youngest children, and threatened suicide unless she was admitted to hospital. Admitted temporarily to hospital as a "place of safety" she was still there at the end of the year. The mental state of the three children, now being brought up by the grandmother, does not suggest severe retardation, but it is very doubtful if they are getting proper training and care at home.
2. "D.H.", born 25.10.31, ascertained to be mentally defective at Acton in 1938, was evacuated to Gateshead during the war. On 31st April, 1946, she was notified as ineducable with an I.Q. of 47. She was admitted to a local hospital in 1952, certified under the Mental Deficiency Acts and thereafter admitted to the special hospital. Liberated on licence in 1957 to the care of the mother, she was discharged from order in 1958, and in 1960 she found work. On 9.9.61 she married "J.H.", who was an ex-patient of another mental hospital, and at the end of the year a baby was expected. This patient was of such low mentality that she did not know her married name. Her husband, when he does work, keeps all the wages, so that it has been necessary for external assistance to be given to the mother and child.
3. "V.G." born 16.10.35. This epileptic girl was certified under the Mental Deficiency Acts in 1953, and admitted to a special hospital, from which she was discharged on licence in 1959 and discharged from the Order by the Board of Control. On 15th September, 1961, she went with her husband to live in Newcastle where her husband was employed. She often returned to Gateshead after the frequent quarrels with her husband who is also reputed to be of subnormal mentality.
4. "I.P.", born 10.11.36, was found to have an I.Q. of 60% in 1946 and was recommended for special residential schooling, but this was not possible. Her mother died in 1954. After admission to a local hospital as a place of safety, she was certified and admitted to a mental deficiency institution in 1955. In 1957, she was liberated on licence, and soon afterwards discharged from order. In 1961, she married, her husband being of low intellect (I.Q. of 62% at school), and unemployed. In 1961 a baby was born, and at the end of the year another infant was expected. This is expected to turn out to be one of the problem families in this Borough.

In comment on the foregoing cases it must be said that there is very little preventive medicine about this state of affairs whereby subnormal girls admitted to institutional care are liberated and allowed to contract marriage. As matters stand, a female of admittedly defective intellect is legally considered to be capable of giving a knowledgeable consent to enter into the state of married life with all that it means, including the begetting of children, who as a result of maternal inefficiency will almost certainly turn out to be a local problem.

A recent experience whereby a girl of 18 years of severely subnormal intellect and attending the local training centre became pregnant and gave the statutory notice of marriage, left us virtually helpless to deal with the situation. As the law stands, an offence had apparently been committed by the male paramour and this was a matter referred to the police. Enquiry as to the possibility of stopping the marriage showed that the only way in which this could be achieved was by putting the girl under guardianship and probably that of the Local Authority. In this connection it must be remembered that under the repealed Mentally Deficiency Act a girl not properly looked after by her parents could have been sent to an institution if in moral danger or after she became pregnant.

That the past failure to deal with the subnormal patients is very serious in its social results can be substantiated by a longer history involving a Newcastle man and a Gateshead woman whose history has been traced at least in summary form.



"D.D." born in Gateshead in 1926, was found to be educationally retarded in 1936 with an I.Q. of 68%. Nothing much was done to follow her up after leaving a special class for backward children in a local school. This woman married in 1950 after three months acquaintance with her husband and the marriage was soon in difficulty. Her husband, "W.McG.", born in 1918, belonged to a family constantly having the attention of the Probation Officer in Newcastle, where he made his first appearance in Court at the age of 14 years in 1932, and was put under probation for twelve months. He was committed to an approved school later on in the same year on a charge of stealing a bicycle and in 1936 was fined on another charge. In 1938 he was committed to Borstal for attempted shop-breaking and had been unemployed from the time he left the approved school until he was sent to Borstal. On release from Borstal he served for two years in the Army and was discharged on the grounds of psychoneurosis with a pension of 8/- a week. Thereafter he had numerous jobs as a labourer. He made court appearances in 1946 and 1951. This was the man who married "D.D.", in 1950 and who received the attention of the N.S.P.C.C. in 1954 in Newcastle because of the neglect of their three children, then aged 3 years, 2 years and 6 months. "Mc.G." alleged his wife was mentally afflicted and stated that she had been twice in a mental hospital as a voluntary patient. At this time the family lived in a council flat and were assisted by the local authority in the way of home help for two and a half days a week. Nevertheless "Mc.G." broke the windows and frames of his house and assaulted his wife, who finally left home in February, 1955, and returned to her mother in Gateshead. The couple were re-united soon after this episode when the damage to the flat had been repaired. Shortly afterwards there was more trouble and the wife left home to return to Gateshead, living in a rented house from which she stated she was subsequently evicted.

In April, 1955, the couple once again re-united, only to part almost immediately, the baby now being in the care of the Children's Officer at Newcastle. Mrs. "Mc.G." went as a voluntary patient to a mental hospital. The case was then discussed by the co-ordinating committee, but meantime the fourth baby was born in January, 1956. The couple separated again, the eldest child at this time being noted as probably being mentally subnormal. Finally, in May, 1956 the four children were committed to the care of the Local Authority in Newcastle, and at this time "Mc.G." had lived on National Assistance for four years and was considered unemployable. In December, 1956, "Mc.G.", giving various addresses, was admitted to the psychiatric unit of a Newcastle Hospital and discharged after a few days. He was re-admitted in January, 1958, and discharged to the care of the Newcastle police, having tried to set fire to his house by lighting papers under the cot of his baby, the fifth child born in 1957. He was tried at the quarter sessions, and as a result was put on probation, provided that he had treatment in the hospital, to which he was once again re-admitted and discharged at a later date.

This whole history came to the notice of the Gateshead Health Department in December, 1961, when the sixth baby, then three months old, was admitted to a local hospital in an extremely neglected condition. At that time, "Mc.G.", his wife and the two children were living in an attic with a skylight and no facilities. They had been allowed to occupy the attic as they were apparently homeless.

As the result of the child's admission to hospital the foregoing enquiries, admittedly incomplete, were made. At the time of the infant's admission the mother was once again separated from her husband and had taken her two children to the Gateshead attic. Soon after this came to light, the owner of the attic put the family out and the wife returned to her mother with the two children, while "Mc.G." apparently went to a hostel in Newcastle.

This deplorable history has its real origin in a failure to supervise a girl of subnormal mentality during the war years, who was subsequently allowed to be married and proved unable to cope with her marriage to an unhappy individual of very marked defects of mind if not actually psychopathic tendencies. Many agencies have worked on this family, but four of her children have had to be taken into the care of a local authority and it looks as if two others will have similarly to be saved.



### *Mental Illness*

In 1961, 288 mentally ill persons were dealt with by the duly authorised officers. 227 of this total (90 males and 137 females), were admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, and 5 to general hospitals (2 males and 3 females). This leaves 56 of the patients (24 males and 32 females), who remained at home under supervision. The total number of visits that were paid in connection with mental illness amounted to 697. It is worthy of note that of the 227 admissions to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, 108 were people admitted for the first time.

The age distribution of the 227 patients admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, is tabulated below, along with the manner of admission and the fate of those admitted to this hospital in 1961:—

**Table I. Age and Sex Distribution of Mentally Ill persons admitted to St. Mary's Hospital**

<i>Age</i>				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Under 21 years	..	..	..	6	4	10
21 - 45 years	..	..	..	42	41	83
45 - 64 years	..	..	..	32	63	95
Over 65 years	..	..	..	10	29	39
<i>Total</i> .. ..				90	137	227

**Table II. Particulars of Admissions and Other Relevant Data (St. Mary's Hospital)**

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>a.</i>	Admitted informally	..	..	62	110	172
<i>b.</i>	Admitted for observation	..	..	27	27	54
	Of these :—					
	i. ultimately detained	..	..	4	7	11
	ii. made informal	..	..	23	20	43
<i>c.</i>	Admitted as detained patients			1	—	1
<i>d.</i>	Total patients admitted	..		90	137	227
	No. of these discharged in 1961			75	119	194
	No. who died in 1961	..	..	12	17	29
<i>e.</i>	Total number of Gateshead patients still in hospital (31.12.61)			223	166	389

The figures in the table above refer to persons, but in the official return to the Ministry of Health the number of mentally ill persons referred to the Local Authority during the year is given as 242. The reason for the discrepancy is that some of the patients were referred on two occasions, and possibly from different sources.

### *Mental Deficiency (Subnormality of Mind)*

During 1961, 20 males, 11 under 16 years and 9 over that age, together with 8 females, 6 under 16 and 2 above this age, were referred to the Local Authority from the Educational System. Two female subnormal persons were discharged from hospital and the police and courts brought

to the notice of the Local Authority 3 male subnormals over 16 years of age, while one female subnormal came otherwise to notice. Five of the males were severely subnormal, 4 being under school age.

This means that at the end of the year the Local Authority was supervising 16 boys and 8 girls attending the junior day training centre, 18 youths attending the adult training centre, and 12 adult girls attending the senior division of the Old Fold Training Centre. In addition, 7 boys and 10 girls were being cared for at home, as were 89 adult males and 76 adult females. Altogether 236 subnormal persons are known to the Local Authority. 54 of these are having training, 182 are being supervised at home, none of them is resident in a hostel or training centre and none is receiving home training. Of this total, 9 are reckoned to be in urgent need of hospital care; 5 children under 16 (3 boys and 2 girls), and 4 adults (2 males and 2 females). 22 others are on the waiting list for admission to hospital but are not in urgent need. These comprise 10 adult males and 12 adult females.

During the year 12 persons, made up of 3 boys, 2 girls and 7 adult women, were temporarily admitted to hospital for a period of residential care. Subnormal persons in institutions are made up as follows:—

	<i>Under 16 years</i>		<i>Over 16 years</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
1. In places of safety .. ..	—	—	4	4	4	4	8
2. Detained in Institutions ..	—	—	23	30	23	30	53
No. of these on licence ..	—	—	(4)	(4)	(4)	(4)	(8)
3. In Institutions (Informally) ..	17	15	66	80	83	95	178
	17	15	93	114	110	129	239

This means that in addition to the 236 subnormal persons being cared for at home and supervised by the Local Authority, there are 239 normally in hospital or institution and of the latter 8 have been admitted for reasons of safety and 8 are actually licensed from the institution to the relatives.

### *Training Centres*

During the year, in accordance with proposals under the Mental Health Act the Old Fold Occupation Centre, which catered for all ages and both sexes became restricted as from the third week in March to the training of junior children under 16 years and the older females. The population distribution of pupils in attendances is shown in the following figures:—

	<i>Boys under 16 years</i>	<i>Boys over 16 years</i>	<i>Girls under 16 years</i>	<i>Girls over 16 years</i>
at 1st January, 1961	14	7	6	8
at 31st December, 1961	16	1	8	12

At the end of the year 2 boys, and one girl under 16 years of age were attending from Durham County. The boy over 16 years was shortly due to



be accepted in the adult training centre. The possible attendances of the children on the roll was 6,673 and the actual attendances were 5,956.

The staff of the centre comprised the supervisor and four assistant supervisors, 2 kitchen staff and 2 cleaners. Miss McDermott, who was the supervisor, left the service of the corporation in April, 1961, and was replaced by Mrs. Moore, previously the assistant supervisor who had the necessary period of training.

The children are fed on the premises by dinners cooked by the kitchen staff. Six children were receiving free dinners on account of their home circumstances and the distribution of milk, as in the ordinary schools, has extended to all the children in attendance under 18 years of age.

### *Transport*

The Gateshead children are collected by the municipal ambulance service in the sitting case ambulance and brought to the centre daily, and at the end of the day are delivered back to their homes or to points near their homes. The Durham County children are similarly handled by a service provided by that authority.

### *Health*

The health of the children remains on the whole satisfactory, although in January there were several children ill with the seasonal infections. In May one 17-year old child was found to have tuberculosis and was admitted to sanatorium. Tuberculin testing of the children showed 11 positive reactors and these children were x-rayed, as were all the staff of the centre.

Immunisation against poliomyelitis was extended to all the children, whose health is supervised by the medical staff from the health department.

### *Premises*

Although the centre was formerly a day nursery and is a prefabricated temporary building it has been on the whole fairly satisfactory for its present use as a training centre for young subnormal persons. Nevertheless there is great trouble in maintaining a suitable temperature during the winter months, due to the poor form of heating installed in the original building. This takes the form of semi-closed stoves, which were replaced by electrically heated pipes arranged round the walls of the classrooms, together with the necessary thermometers to keep the temperature at a proper level.

### *Activities*

The special activities of the centre, in addition to tuition, took the form of a sports' day in July, at which the adult males from the South Close Training Centre also attended, together with relatives of both groups.



At the end of the year an open day with a concert in which the trainees took part, and a sale of work, were held on 5th December, at which various civic personalities attended and expressed their appreciation of the work done in the centre.

### *South Close Adult Training Centre*

The above centre was opened on Monday, March 20th, the trainees being the boys over 16 years of age who had previously attended the Old Fold Occupation Centre. The plan was to build up from this nucleus gradually, increasing the staff as the trainees were admitted.

Mr. F. J. Herdman, who had a wealth of training centre experience with another authority organised the transfer of the boys from the Old Fold Centre, and helped with his advice and his supervision the installation of the necessary training machinery required for the task.

The South Close Centre, which was formerly a day nursery, had extensive alterations to make it suitable for the purpose for which it was to be used, and opportunity was taken to improve the heating system by electric radiators. It was intended to increase on the number of six original entrants by gradually admitting new trainees to the number of 25 or 30 and provide the staff of three with Mr. Herdman directing the activities. This was achieved by the end of the year. The work of the centre was mainly directed towards the proper use of the handicraft equipment in the manufacture of useful and saleable articles.

By June there were 12 pupils in attendances with two supervisors and in the autumn after the summer holidays the number was again increased when the centre re-opened with 17 trainees in attendance, and shortly before the end of the year the third member of the staff was appointed.

An Open Day was held in December in the Greenesfield Health Centre, which attracted considerable appreciative attention from a number of visitors, both official and unofficial, and included members of the Committee and friends of the trainees. The productions of the trainees were on show, the articles displayed ranging from baskets, rugs and toys to various simple household necessities, and relatives of the trainees and other members of the corporation staff helped to make the exhibition a good success. All the goods displayed were sold, the proceeds going to the corporation, while a good many orders were taken for the supply of similar articles. The sales exceeded £125 and there were orders for £50 more of work to be supplied in 1962. As a result of this very good response from the trainees, who worked very hard indeed, consideration was given to the establishment of an incentive scheme to be started in 1962.

The health and conduct of the trainees in attendance was very good. Actually all received mid-day meals from the schools meal service, each youth taking his turn in assisting with the service of the mid-day meals.

There is no doubt whatever that this centre fulfils a most pressing need for the training of unfortunate individuals, who are debarred from

the usual earning activities of the young. Nevertheless under skilled supervision it is amazing to see the quality of the goods that they are capable of producing as a result of simple repetitive efforts. It is obvious that the money spent in this new project is, in fact, well spent, and every effort should be made during 1962 to develop the service to the maximum of capacity.

As matters stand, the former classrooms of this 60-place nursery provide three workrooms for the trainees and approximately ten of these are under each supervisor. Mr. Herdman, the supervisor, looks all the time to avenues through which he can sell or supply the products of the centre, with a view to minimising the cost to the local authority of this type of training. He is to be congratulated on the excellence of his work during the past year.

### **13. Priority Dental Services**

#### **Report of Chief Dental Officer**

#### **Treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under Five Years**

All forms of dental treatment were carried out at the Authority's Health Centres. During the year, Mr. Rimer, a dental officer, resigned on 28th October, Mrs. Tierney and Miss Vincent, dental surgery assistants, resigned on 27th July, and 16th December, respectively. These vacancies were not filled by the end of the year. A new dental clinic was opened in April, 1961 in the Wrekenton area of the county borough and has filled a much wanted need.

#### *(a) Dental Inspection or Examination*

The inspection of the expectant mothers was carried out as arranged last year on three mornings each week between the hours of 9.15 a.m. and 10 a.m. at the commencement of the hospital ante-natal clinic.

Of the number of expectant and nursing mothers examined 57.8% were found to require treatment, a decrease of 8.9% compared with last year, and of this number 27.6% were treated at the clinic, a decrease of 26.9%. This latter decrease is due largely to the free treatment now available by private dental practitioners.

The periodic inspection of children under five years of age was, as in the past, confined to those attending the Authority's Nursery Schools, Residential Nurseries and Day Nurseries, the remaining inspections being done for children brought to the clinic when in dental trouble. The number found to be in need of dental treatment was 62%, a reduction of 2%, and of these 88.4% received treatment of one kind or another.

#### *(b) Dental Treatment*

Facilities exist for a comprehensive dental treatment to be given. The figures in the appended tables show the types of work carried out



for the priority classes. In addition to the number of dentures fitted, as shown in these tables, seven dentures were repaired.

(c) *Arrangements for the Provision of Dentures*

As in past years, all denture work is carried out in the Health Centre's laboratory, which is staffed by one senior dental technician in charge and one senior dental technician.

(d) *Facilities for X-Ray Examination*

These facilities exist both at the Authority's Greenesfield Health Centre, Carr Hill Clinic and at Wrekenton Clinics, x-rays being taken as and when they are found necessary. The number taken for these services was 6.

Tables recording treatment given to Priority Dental Services are appended.

**A. Numbers provided with Dental Care**

		<i>Examined</i>	<i>Needing treatment</i>	<i>Treated</i>	<i>Made dentally fit</i>
Expectant and Nursing mothers	..	1,663	957	267	214
Children under five years	..	292	181	160	160

**B. Forms of Dental Treatment Provided**

		<i>Scal- ing and gum treat- ment</i>	<i>Fill- ings</i>	<i>Silver nit- rate</i>	<i>Crowns or in- lays</i>	<i>Extrac- tions</i>	<i>Gen- eral anaes- thetics</i>	<i>Dentures Provided</i>		<i>X-ray</i>
								<i>Full upper or full lower</i>	<i>Part upper or part lower</i>	
Expectant and Nursing mothers	181	161	—	—	979	134	154	51	6	
Children under five years	.. 13	22	9	—	341	153	—	—	—	

## 14. Orthopaedic Treatment

### Report of Mr. A. E. Bremner, F.R.C.S.

22 orthopaedic clinics were held at Greenesfield Health Centre during 1961.

#### *New cases*

86 new cases were examined; of these 45 were school children who made 78 visits, and 41 were children under school age who made 67 visits.



### *Cases already under treatment*

In addition, 77 old cases made 102 visits to the orthopaedic clinic. Of these, 55 were school children who made 66 visits, and 22 were children under school age who made 36 visits.

A summary of defects found is presented herewith:—

					<i>New cases</i>	<i>old cases</i>	<i>Visits</i>
<i>Congenital Defects</i>							
Abnormality of radius and ulna	..			..	—	1	1
Multiple deformities	..	..		..	—	2	5
Deformity of cervical spine	..			..	—	1	1
Congenital dislocation of hips	..			..	1	—	2
					1	4	9
<i>Deformities of Feet</i>							
Flat feet	..	..	..	..	7	9	21
Adduction deformity	..	..		..	2	7	12
Eversion	..	..	..	..	1	2	4
Hallux Valgus	..	..	..	..	1	2	6
Exostosis	..	..	..	..	3	2	7
Cavus deformity	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
Hypertrophy	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Deformity of toes	..	..	..	..	8	1	11
					23	26	65
<i>Diseases of bones and joints</i>							
Osteochondritis	..	..	..	..	1	1	4
Fragilitas ossium	..	..	..	..	1	—	2
Osteogenesis imperfecta	..			..	—	1	1
					2	2	7
<i>Nervous Diseases</i>							
Sequelae to poliomyelitis	..			..	2	3	10
Cerebral palsy	..	..	..	..	—	6	6
Paralysis of arm	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
					2	10	17
<i>Postural Defects</i>							
Torticollis	..	..	..	..	2	3	11
Scoliosis	..	..	..	..	2	3	11
Kyphosis	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
					4	7	23
<i>Miscellaneous</i>							
Knock knees	..	..	..	..	12	10	39
Bow Legs	..	..	..	..	3	2	9
Deformity of finger	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Shortening of leg	..	..	..	..	—	4	6
Narrow disc	..	..	..	..	—	1	3
Poor posture	..	..	..	..	1	1	4
Sterno mastoid tumour	..	..	..	..	—	2	6
Nil abnormal	..	..	..	..	38	7	58
					54	28	126

### *Appliances*

13 school children were recommended appliances; 13 were supplied.  
8 pre-school children were recommended appliances; 8 were supplied.

Alterations to shoes (valgus wedges) were carried out during the year as follows:—

Education . . . . .	44
Maternity and Child Welfare	51

## **15. Nursing Homes**

Craigielea Nursing Home continues under the guidance of Miss Twitchett, the Matron, to provide accommodation for 12 patients suffering from chronic illness. These premises were visited during 1961 and found to be in order.

## **16. Health Education**

The arrangements for health propaganda during 1961 proceeded broadly on the same lines as in previous years. Reliance is mainly placed on the personal contact of the health visitors, who are also school nurses, with the parents on the districts to which they are attached. Their main efforts are directed towards securing the immunisation of the population against infectious disease and the proper nurture and care of the children, by advice and example to the mothers.

A certain amount of overt propaganda is carried out by way of the distribution of “ Better Health ” and “ Mother and Baby ” booklets to the mothers who attend the various health centres and child welfare sessions. Similarly posters are used in the health department premises, in the laboratories and in various other public offices to draw attention to the needs for food hygiene and for the control of droplet infection by using handkerchiefs.

The health visitors address short talks to the mothers of the children attending the centre to illustrate the need for hygienic practices in the care of the scalp, teeth, and the inculcation of proper personal habits. Unfortunately much of this propaganda seems to make an impression only on the converted, and the main objective is to reach the careless and ignorant. For them it is necessary sometimes to apply a measure of compulsion to secure the proper care of the children, and here the services of the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector has to be relied on.

Various professional members of the staff from time to time give lectures to interested bodies in connection with matters of public health. The Deputy Medical Officer of Health has given talks to young wives, under the auspices of the Low Fell Congregational Church and to the local Federation of Professional and Business Women. Members of the Health Visiting staff also continue to give lectures on home nursing to the British Red Cross Association.



## 17. Problem Families

During the year 186 families were under the supervision of the health visitors in the Borough. This is a reduction of 13 families, the number supervised in 1960. This would appear to be a satisfactory state of affairs that there has been some decrease in number, but before claiming any real success it would be only right to point out that it is possible and even probable that these families have moved out to surrounding areas, e.g. Felling and Newcastle. Nevertheless, I think we may claim a fair measure of success was achieved during the year. However, there still remains a very difficult group of cases which are increasingly engaging more and more of our time. The problem is probably best illustrated by quoting two such cases.

The first family "A" is a family which has been under supervision by the health department for several years now. The mother is of low mentality and in fact she was in a home until the beginning of the war when she was liberated. In addition, she is mentally unstable, having been in St. Mary's Hospital once. The father, too, is very unstable, having been in St. Mary's Hospital on four occasions. The family consists of four children, a boy aged 13, another boy 12, a girl of 9 and another boy of 7. Over the years we have tried practically everything with this family. We have put a home help in the home for prolonged periods to try and train the mother. We have arranged for the family to get an exchange from a council flat into a council house. The eldest boy obtained a place in the Grammar School. The second boy, however, aged 12, who is of normal intelligence, is now on probation because of larceny, in addition to which he truants from school, and presents a very difficult problem of management. The girl of 9 has an I.Q. of 52 (normal range 90—110), and is in a special school. The great difficulty with this child is that she is of such poor mentality that she is unable to keep herself clean physically, and the mother, of course, is also of poor mentality, so that there is a standing battle by teachers, health visitors and the N.S.P.C.C. to keep this child in a reasonable state of cleanliness, and to see that she is adequately clothed in all weathers. She has on occasion, appeared in school during the snowy weather in a thin dress and sand-shoes. The remaining member of the family, a little boy of 7, who has an I.Q. of 70, is receiving education in a special class. It is perfectly obvious that this multitude of difficulties in the one family presents all those agencies who are dealing with them with an almost insurmountable problem. Probably the greatest stumbling block to the successful management of the case is the husband, who, when he works can earn amounts in the region of £14 per week and insists on giving his wife £8 only. It was only, in fact, when the second son was brought before the Court that the mother received some inkling of her husband's earnings. We have now reached the stage with this family that although we are willing to give them help in the form of home help we feel it would be quite wrong to ask the ratepayers to pay for this help, and the husband refuses to pay even part of the cost. It is therefore probably true to say that we have almost reached a situation of deadlock. Over the years a tremendous amount of time, energy and money has been spent on this family without any obvious sign of improvement, and one wonders



whether, in fact, we are justified in continuing our efforts. Nevertheless, the fact remains that we have been able to keep the family together and they appear to be a fairly happy and united family, so we continue, and it would appear that this family is likely to remain with us as long as there are children in that family.

An almost similar case is case "B". This family has been under the supervision of this department since 1958, when it was abruptly brought to our notice that the husband had gone berserk, and had taken a chopping axe and damaged a considerable amount of the furniture. He was, of course, at that time removed to St. Mary's Hospital. The family consisted of two young children, including a baby a few days old. We immediately tried to rehabilitate the family. The mother appeared to be of low mentality but was quite co-operative. However, she had numerous brothers and sisters and she spent her time with them while her husband was in hospital. We have, however, on several occasions since 1958 had home helps in and the health visitor has had the family under very close supervision. Nevertheless, the position came acutely to our notice again in 1961, when the N.S.P.C.C. Inspector was very anxious about the condition of the children and said he proposed to take the children into care. The family, by this time, consisted of four children, one aged  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , one age 3, one aged 2 and one again about 6 weeks old. At this time a joint visit was made with the Inspector and the conditions were, in fact found to be appalling. The children were not toilet trained and there was an accumulation of human excreta and dirt all round the house causing some annoyance to the neighbours. In view of the parents' mental condition it was decided that we would once again try and rehabilitate them, and accordingly a home help was installed every day. The children, aged, 4, 3 and 2 years, were admitted to the day nursery for training and for a time everything went quite well. The mother, although of low mentality, was perfectly willing to co-operate. However, as time went on it became very apparent that the father's mental condition was such that every time he was frustrated by anything he had what could only be called 'tantrums'. These consisted of smashing up the furniture, unrolling the wallpaper while the home helps were trying to paper, and in general causing chaos and undoing the work that we had started. He was seen by a consultant psychiatrist, who agreed that the man was probably in need of treatment but was not certifiable, and Mr. 'B' refused to go into hospital as a voluntary patient. We were therefore in the position that nothing concrete in this matter could be done. The situation continued like this for several weeks, during which time we had numerous complaints from the neighbours because of noisy behaviour and the rows which went on between him and his wife. This culminated in him assaulting his wife quite badly and therefore, very reluctantly, the agencies involved decided, I think for the first time, that probably the solution to this problem was for Mrs. 'B' to obtain a legal separation. This she did, in fact, do in August of 1961, and for some time the conditions were said to be quite satisfactory. The mother co-operated and the children were being very well looked after. However, towards the end of the year she went back to her husband and is now again pregnant. The conditions are not as bad as they were twelve months ago. At the same time they are such that the department holds a continual watching brief.

I think these two cases illustrate how extremely difficult the management of problem families can be and how a critical review over a period of years makes one wonder whether, in fact, we are achieving any great result from the amount of time and effort spent on them. However, the fact remains that these families have been kept together in both cases in spite of the mental disability of the parents, who, in their peculiar way, seem to be very attached to their families.

Once again I would like to pay tribute to all the people who have worked so hard during the past year on these very difficult problems, and to place on record again the fact that all the numerous agencies concerned have co-operated to the full.

## C. LOCAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(Part IV. of the National Health Service Act)

Through the kindness of the Clerk of the Local Executive Council, I am able to furnish the following information about the Council Service for the financial year ending March, 1962:—

### 1. General Medical Service

106,687 persons were registered on the lists of doctors in the area, which represents a decrease of 712 on the corresponding figure of last year. Altogether there were 93 doctors on the medical list, of whom 45 reside in and have surgeries in Gateshead. Only 42 of these are fully active.

The average number of persons on the resident doctors' lists is 2,528, this number including full-time assistant doctors. At 1st April, 1962, the area was re-classified as "open" for the purpose of admission of new doctors to the medical list.

In the obstetric list, 37 resident doctors were included. During 1961 1,177 women received maternity medical services from doctors on the Council's list as against 1,024 in 1960. Of this number, 1,160 selected doctors whose names are included on the obstetric list. In 1,017 cases complete maternity medical service was given, the doctor being present at the confinement in 823 of such cases. Service was also rendered to 160 women for ante-natal care including miscarriages or for post-natal care only.

The amounts paid to doctors during the year ended 31st March, 1962 were as below:—

					£
Capitation payments	..	..	..	..	104,280
Additional "Loadings"	..	..	..	..	33,705
Temporary residents	..	..	..	..	1,009
Maternity medical services	..	..	..	..	13,761
Supplementary Annual Payments	..	..	..	..	275
Balance payment for previous years	..	..	..	..	3,655
					<hr/>
					£156,685
					<hr/>



## 2. Pharmaceutical Services

There were 28 chemists' shops (21 chemist contractors), under agreement to dispense medicine, drugs and scheduled appliances, and 5 contractors supplying surgical appliances (2 situated outside the Borough). The total payments to chemists in the year (including rota payments) was £161,800, and there were 466,232 prescriptions. The average cost per prescription was 8/9.1d. (Jan.-Dec. 1961). The amount paid by patients amounted to £44,410.

## 3. Dental Services

There were 24 dentists on the list. One dentist employed one full-time assistant, and one dentist employed one part-time assistant. The cost of this service was £77,614, in addition to £19,439 paid directly by the patients.

## 4. Ophthalmic Service

Six ophthalmic medical practitioners were under agreement with the ophthalmic services committee to test sight, and 25 ophthalmic opticians were under agreement to test sight and dispense glasses. Two dispensing opticians are also under contract with the Council. Five of the ophthalmic medical practitioners, 15 of the ophthalmic opticians and 1 of the dispensing opticians practise outside the Borough. The cost of sight testing amounted to £10,357, as against £11,163 in the previous year.

During the year, 11,933 pairs of glasses were actually supplied as follows:—7,666 were supplied with a single pair of glasses, 990 with bifocal glasses, 3,060 two pairs of glasses and in 217 cases single lenses were supplied to each pair.

95 persons have applied to opticians to have glasses, previously supplied to them under the National Health Service, repaired or replaced. In 21 of these cases the Ophthalmic Services Committee was satisfied that the breakage or loss was due to personal carelessness and no charge fell on public funds, apart from 10 cases which were allowed on the ground that payment would involve the applicants in financial hardship. 571 children applied for replacement or repair of their glasses, which was approved in 249 cases. During the year, the Committee decided to use its powers under the Regulations to recover from the Local Education Authority the cost of replacement or repair of the glasses of 322 school children where there was evidence of lack of care on the part of the pupil.

The amount paid from public funds for the supply, repair and replacement of glasses amounted to £11,284, of which sum £351 was recovered from the Local Education Committee. Charges paid by patients amounted to £14,999.

1,235 sight tests were given to children of school age and under at the Greenesfield Health Centre by the Ophthalmologist, Mr. J. S. Arkle,

## D. OTHER HEALTH SERVICES

### 1. School Health Service and Clinics

In Gateshead, the treatment arrangements for children of school age and under have been unified so that minor ailments, ophthalmic, orthopaedic, dental and artificial sunlight treatment is available to children under 15 years of age.

For the purposes of making the survey of the local health services comprehensive, the following statistics of the annual report on the school medical services are included. School children on the register at the end of the year numbered 15,917. Of these, 4,617 were submitted to routine medical examination on entrance, at 10 years of age and on leaving. 51.59 per cent. of the parents of children examined by routine were present at the inspection. The nutrition of the children examined at school medical inspection was assessed as satisfactory in 99.3 per cent. of the children. 1,612 children attended the minor ailments clinic and 747 children were prescribed spectacles for errors of refraction. The waiting list for ophthalmic investigations at the end of the year was reduced to a negligible figure. The orthoptic service, which was started in 1948, operated only for the first four months of the year, as the orthoptist left her post at the end of April, on her marriage. The post of orthoptist remained vacant for the remainder of the year. During the time the service was functioning 40 children received treatment, making 419 attendances.

At the end of the year there were three special schools under the Local Authority, the Joicey Road Open Air School with 105 children, the Cedars Special School for Physically Handicapped Children with 32 pupils attending, and the Hindley Hall Special Residential School for Educationally Subnormal Children with 60 pupils.

### 2. Gateshead Dispensary

In the case of the Gateshead Dispensary, a clinic for the treatment of psychosomatic conditions has been carried on by Dr. J. C. Hall, since the appointed day under the National Health Service Act. I am indebted to Dr. Hall for permission to include the following extract from his report on the work of the clinic:—

*“No. of patients on books for treatment : Men 12, Women 23, Total 35.*

<i>Sessions :</i>	Day sessions . .	662	Hypnosis sessions	271
	Evening sessions	331		
		<hr/> 993		

*New patients : Men 2, Women 7, Total 9.*

<i>Men</i>		<i>Women</i>	
Obsession . .	1	Anxiety . .	2
Schizophrenia	1	Depression . .	3
		Hypertension	1
		Menopause . .	1

*Discharges : 10*

<i>Men</i>		<i>Women</i>	
Schizophrenia	1	Asthma . .	1
		Depression . .	4
		Anxiety . .	2
		Domestic trouble	1
		Hypertension	1



The schizophrenic patient was a psychotic and referred back to his doctor.

The woman patient with the hypertension did not get much benefit. She was too late in coming in the first place, and the physical symptoms were too severe to bring about any emotional improvement.

The most difficult patients to treat are those suffering from obsessions and depression. Another difficult hurdle to get over in a patient is ignorance, and the little knowledge acquired by those who read popular psychology books. They pick up technical phrases and words like repression the meaning and connotation of which they do not understand, and quote them very glibly, usually in the wrong places. Thus the issue becomes more and more confused, and progress stops. This type is very frustrating.

Except the schizophrenic, those patients discharged had a clearer insight into their troubles, and although one cannot say they were cured, they were much improved and able to make better adjustments."

## PART III

## PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF DISEASE

## A. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following summary presents the information relating to the prevalence of infectious diseases as known to the Health Department in 1961 :—

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Cases notified or otherwise known</i>	<i>Removed to isolation Hospital</i>	<i>Corrected No. of Cases</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Deaths in Isolation Hospital</i>
<i>Notifiable</i>					
Scarlet fever .. ..	29	8	29	—	—
Diphtheria .. ..	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping cough .. ..	35	—	35	—	—
Measles .. ..	2719	14	2714	—	—
Pneumonia .. ..	265	224	234	95	36
Meningococcal infection ..	4	11	5	—	—
<i>Poliomyelitis :</i>					
Paralytic .. ..	3	3	—	—	—
Non-paralytic .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Acute encephalitis :</i>					
Infective .. ..	16	9	19	2	1
Post-infective .. ..	3	3	3	—	—
Dysentery .. ..	3	3	3	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal pyrexia .. ..	17	3	17	—	—
Enteric fever .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Scabies .. ..	45	—	45	—	—
Food poisoning .. ..	17	2	20	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis :</i>					
Respiratory .. ..	94	35	94	7	2
Meninges & C.N.S. ..	1	1	1	—	—
Other .. ..	3	7	3	—	—
<i>Non-notifiable</i>					
Pemphigus neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—
Glandular fever .. ..	4	4	—	—	—
Chickenpox .. ..	2	2	—	—	—
Mumps .. ..	1	1	—	—	—
Infective hepatitis .. ..	106	8	—	1	—
Rubella .. ..	1	—	—	—	—
Gastro-enteritis .. ..	73	49	—	10	—
Dysentery carriers .. ..	2	—	—	—	—
Salmonella carriers .. ..	16	—	—	—	—
<i>Ringworm :</i>					
Scalp .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Body .. ..	—	—	—	—	—

In 1961 there were 3,222 verified cases of notifiable diseases in Gateshead residents, as compared with 701 in 1960. The great difference was due to the occurrence of 2,714 cases of measles, which was in epidemic form from January to the end of June, the usual six months of prevalence. There were fortunately no deaths from this very severe epidemic.

The other epidemiological features of the year were a wave of bronchiolitis among infants in January, followed very closely by a very



mild prevalence of influenza attended by some severe pulmonary infections, a continued prevalence of infective hepatitis and in late spring in the Wrekenton School the appearance of mild gastro-enteritis with which no bacterial cause could be associated ; although investigations were negative the cause was thought to be a virus. This type of non-specific enteritis was also met in a number of cases admitted to the isolation hospital. At the end of the year, the local authority decided to ask the approval of the Ministry of Health to making infective hepatitis a notifiable disease in Gateshead, a policy which the Minister ultimately approved, fixing the commencing date as the 1st March, 1962.

## 1. Notifiable Diseases

### *Scarlet Fever*

Only 29 cases of scarlet fever were known and only 8 of these were removed to hospital, where the type was universally mild and free from complications. It is no exaggeration to state that in the absence of immunisation of any kind the disappearance of scarlet fever in numbers as well as the great decline in virulence is one of the less understood features of present-day epidemiology.

### *Diphtheria*

No true case of diphtheria came to light in 1961.

### *Whooping Cough*

Only 35 cases of whooping cough were ascertained, and there was no mortality from the disease, a feature which now extends to the last six years. There is little doubt that this change in the virulence of whooping cough is the result of routine immunisation of children with triple antigen.

### *Measles*

The epidemic of measles began in January, some sixteen months after the end of the previous epidemic of 1958/59. By April the disease reached its height as over 900 cases were notified and thereafter the numbers declined to 270 cases in June and 40 in July. The measles chart of monthly incidence shows an interval between the peak of the previous epidemic and that of 1961 of eighteen months, which is almost unprecedented in Gateshead, although figures of 24 months and 20 months have been noted, apart from the years 1948—1953, when there were annual waves of measles prevalence.

The measles epidemic was expected to begin in the autumn of 1960, and in South Durham the disease began an increase in the autumn, but it took three months for the wave of prevalence to overtake Gateshead. Fortunately there was no mortality from the disease, although of such heavy incidence. It seems quite clear that the modern antibiotics have changed measles, not by a direct influence on the measles virus but by their efficacy against the cross-infecting organisms like the pneumococcus, the streptococcus, the staphylococcus and other bacilli.

### *Pneumonia and Influenza*

234 cases of pneumonia came to light, largely through admissions to the hospitals serving the Borough, and especially Sheriff Hill Hospital. Altogether there were 95 deaths. A large number of the pneumonias occurred among the elderly with other infections especially of a cardiac and respiratory nature, and the pneumonia in these was often what used to be called "terminal pneumonia", which today reacts very favourably to appropriate hospital treatment. Mortality was at its maximum in the early months of the year when atmospheric conditions were at their worst.

### *Meningococcal Infection*

There were only 5 true cases of meningococcal infection during the year and all recovered.

### *Poliomyelitis*

Although there were three cases of suspected paralytic poliomyelitis, on investigation at the hospital they were reduced to only one, which in fact came from the county area. It was a Type 3 Virus infection.

There were no non-paralytic cases of this disease.

### *Encephalitis*

In recent years the so-called virus encephalo-meningitis has been in these parts, and in 1961 no less than 19 cases were classified under this diagnosis, 18 of these having been found on admission to hospital to have abnormal cerebro-spinal fluids. In some cases, at a later date, a definite virus was incriminated. The 18 cases ascertained in hospital were associated with one death in a woman in whom blood investigation suggested recent invasion by Type B. Influenza Virus. In the case of another death at home post-mortem examination revealed the death to be due to influenza.

### *Post-infective Encephalitis*

This occurred in a case of measles, a case of pneumonia and in a case admitted to hospital for investigation.

### *Dysentery*

Only 3 cases of Sonne Dysentery infection occurred in Gateshead during 1961, two families being affected and both also showing the presence of carriers.

### *Enteric Fever*

No case of enteric fever occurred in the Borough during 1961,



### *Erysipelas*

No case of this form of streptococcal infection was noted in 1961.

### *Scabies*

45 cases of scabies came to light, as compared with 87 in the previous year. The cases were treated on modern lines and supervised until non-infectious.

## 2. Non-notifiable Disease

Four cases of glandular fever were ascertained through admission to the local isolation hospital. This disease appears to be of sporadic incidence all the year round.

Two cases of chickenpox were similarly ascertained as was a single case of mumps.

Infective hepatitis cases numbered no less than 106, the majority of the patients coming to light through the school attendance officers' returns, the peak being in October and November. Eight of the patients were admitted to the isolation hospital. The 106 cases were mainly in children of school age with 54 boys and 44 girls affected. There were also affected one pre-school female child and two men and five women. Among the last there was one death, a woman aged 66 who died in hospital.

An up-to-date table is produced giving the figures relating to this disease since 1948, when the local prevalence began to be notable :—

	1958		1959		1960		1961		Sex unknown
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Pre-school children ..	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	1	—
5-10 years .. ..	5	5	16	28	23	29	43	31	—
11-15 years .. ..	3	5	11	15	13	12	11	13	—
Over 15 years .. ..	?	?	5	5	4	3	2	5(1)	—
Age unknown .. ..	—	—	—	—	12	16	—	—	5
	20+		34	49	52	60	56	50	5

(deaths in parenthesis)

*Gastro-enteritis* continued to cause some mortality, no less than 10 infants dying from this disease, and two of these in the first month of life. 49 of the patients were treated in hospital.

## Virus Infections

The following table lists the patients from the Borough by age, illness and diagnosis of same in relation to the virus which was incriminated either in paired sera or by actual isolation. All these cases were treated in Sheriff Hill Infectious Diseases Hospital.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Sex</i>	<i>Age Years</i>	<i>Admitted to hospital</i>	<i>Final diagnosis</i>	<i>Virus</i>	<i>Type</i>
K.R.	M	4/12	4. 1.61	Bronchiolitis	Adenovirus	2
D.G.	M	2/12	16. 1.61	Bronchiolitis	Adenovirus	1
E.Y.	F	69	20. 1.61	Influenza (dual infection)	Influenza	A & B
M.B.	F	36	31. 1.61	R.U.L. Consolidation	Influenza	A
R.S.	F	46	3. 2.61	Iron deficiency anaemia	Influenza	A
R.D.	F	78	10. 2.61	Influenzal broncho-pneumonia	Influenza	A
T.B.	M	79	1. 3.61	R.U. M.L. Pneumonia	Influenza	A
M.S.	F	70	9. 3.61	Chest infection	Influenza	A
F.B.	M	6.8/12	16. 3.61	Herpes simplex	Herpes simplex	
J.B.	F	73	22. 3.61	Influenzal pneumonia	Influenza	A
M.S.	F	76	4. 4.61	R.L.L. Pneumonia	Influenza	A
T.H.	M	59	14. 4.61	Traumatic pneumonia	Influenza	B
C.D.	F	17/365	23. 5.61	U.R. Infection	Adenovirus	I
M.H.	F	7/12	2. 6.61	Non-specific gastro-enteritis	Adenovirus	I
S.T.	M	75	7. 6.61	Lobar pneumonia	Influenza	B
S.W.	M	2/12	14. 6.61	Non-specific gastro-enteritis	Adenovirus	I
K.H.	M	8	27. 6.61	Virus encephalitis	Echo	9
D.J.	F	14/12	6. 7.61	Chest opacity	Adenovirus	I
P.G.	F	13	28. 7.61	Virus encephalitis	Influenza	B
K.L.	M	3/12	15. 8.61	Encephalitis bronchiolitis	Coxsackie	A9
H.C.	F	6/12	31. 8.61	Non-paralytic polio (?)	Polio'	III
S.H.	M	16/12		Acute bronchiolitis	Echo	14
D.M.	M	2	14. 9.61	Turpentine poisoning	Coxsackie	A9
J.B.	M	10/12	27. 9.61	Bronchitis	Adenovirus	I
B.K.	M	2	27. 9.61	Virus encephalitis	Echo	14
G.S.	F	11/12	7.10.61	Bronchiolitis	Echo	14
A.B.	M	1.7/12	7.10.61	Herpetic stomatitis —virus encephalitis	Echo	14
M.H.	M	20/12	10.10.61	Paralytic poliomyelitis (L.L. limb)	Polio'	3
E.B.	M	3	11.10.61	Paralytic poliomyelitis	Polio'	3
P.J.	F	1.3/12	18.10.61	Non-specific gastro-enteritis	Adenovirus	7
K.F.	F	13	22.10.61	Non-paralytic poliomyelitis	Polio'	3
B.S.	M	11/52	24.12.61	Bronchopneumonia	Adenovirus	
P.C.	M	6/12	29.12.61	Bronchopneumonia, eczema	Unidenti- fied cyto- pathogenic agent	

The above table is a continuation of the list which was first published in 1960 of our local experience of the viruses. The thing that must strike one on reading the two tables together is the multiplicity of viruses that are in the town and the diversity of conditions with which they are associated. In some conditions, as for instance the case of "D.M.". there is no relation whatever between the condition necessitating admission to hospital and the finding of a specific virus in the faeces. Similarly, the adenoviruses seem to be associated with a chest infection at one time and with a gastro-enteritis at another. Clearly, much correlation will have to be done between these virological findings and the conditions from which patients suffer before any clear conclusions can be drawn as to the extent of their prevalence and responsibility for causing a disease.

### 3. Sickness Claims

During 1961 the very sharp increase of the last week of the previous year was continued during the month of January, when fresh sickness



claims ranged from nearly 1,000 a week to the 600 level, below which figures the number of claims was stabilised for the rest of 1961. Minimum figures of 400—500 were noted in the months of May, June, July, August and September.

#### 4. Supervision of Contacts

Two dysentery carriers and 16 Salmonella carriers were supervised during 1961.

#### 5. Infestation and Uncleanliness

The Public Health Inspectors' Department does help in the removal of aged and infirm persons from their own homes to the Corporation Welfare Hostels and five cases had to be dealt with for flea infestation.

There was no evidence of body lice in any of these people.

Amongst school children the greatest concern is the clearance of head lice and nits from the hair and in the school report it is shown how much constant and tiring effort is made to rid the children of these unpleasant and unnecessary accompaniments of school life.

From time to time the Public Health Inspectors' Department is asked to deal with complaints of ear wigs, wasps, ants and pests of a similar nature. Usually advice and material help is afforded to the complainants.

### B. SUSPECTED FOOD POISONING AND SALMONELLOSIS

In accordance with regulations the following return was made to the Ministry of Health :—

1. *Local Authority* : Gateshead County Borough. *Year*, 1961.

2. (a) Notifications (corrected), as returned to Registrar General :

<i>1st quarter</i>	<i>2nd quarter</i>	<i>3rd quarter</i>	<i>4th quarter</i>	<i>Total</i>
—	5	5	8	18

(b) Cases otherwise ascertained

<i>1st quarter</i>	<i>2nd quarter</i>	<i>3rd quarter</i>	<i>4th quarter</i>	
—	—	26	13	39

(c) Symptomless Excreters

<i>1st quarter</i>	<i>2nd quarter</i>	<i>3rd quarter</i>	<i>4th quarter</i>	
1	5	9	1	16

(d) Fatal cases

<i>1st quarter</i>	<i>2nd quarter</i>	<i>3rd quarter</i>	<i>4th quarter</i>	
—	—	—	—	—

3. Particulars of Outbreaks

<i>Agent</i>	<i>No. of outbreaks</i>		<i>No. of Cases</i>		<i>Total No. of cases</i>
	<i>Family outbreaks</i>	<i>Other outbreaks</i>	<i>Notified</i>	<i>Otherwise ascertained</i>	
C1. welchii	1	1	5	39	45

4. Single Cases — Nil.

5. *Salmonella* Infections, not Food-borne

<i>Salmonella</i> (type)		<i>Outbreaks</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Single cases</i>	<i>Total No. of cases (outbreaks and single cases)</i>
Meleagridis	..	..	—	1	1
Typhimurium	..	..	—	7	7
Manhattan	..	..	—	6	6
Heidelberg	..	..	—	1	1
TOTAL:	..	..	—	15	15

**Food Poisoning**

Two major incidents are to be recorded in respect of 1961.

On 26.8.61 an excursion of 190 people went from Gateshead to Redcar, where they had meals at a cafe. The meals consisted of a lunch and a tea. Within twelve hours after their return several people became ill with severe abdominal pain, diarrhoea and vomiting and subsequent information showed that in all probability about 70 per cent. of the persons concerned had gastro-intestinal symptoms. In the preliminary investigations it appeared that the persons who did not consume pork at the luncheon in the restaurant concerned escaped. The matter was therefore referred to the authorities at Redcar, but none of the suspected foodstuffs was available for examination. The faeces of two of the victims, a man aged 56 and a woman aged 64, showed the presence of *Clostridium Welchii*, and 26 persons who suffered the symptoms and who were on the trip submitted faeces for examination and all the specimens proved negative, as were three contacts of two persons in whom *C1. Welchii* was incriminated. This appears to have been an outbreak involving the pre-cooking of the pork for a lengthy period, it being allowed to cool for some hours and then being kept overnight in a refrigerator. Thereafter the pork was sliced and kept on a hot plate until served. On the other hand, it is stated that members of the staff of the restaurant involved had consumed pork and had suffered no ill-effects.

A second outbreak involving the same organism occurred at a family party on Christmas Day, where a family of 3 and 13 guests had a typical turkey Christmas dinner. All who took the turkey had severe abdominal pain and diarrhoea beginning at midnight and lasting until the following day. Samples of the remains of the food which were fortunately available led to the finding of *C1. Welchii* in the turkey in two samples as consumed by the patients. Samples of the faeces of the Gateshead patients were, however, negative. Their guests came from outside the district, and they were not sampled as by the time the initial findings came to light they had made a complete recovery.

Individual *Salmonella* infections were more numerous and varied in 1961 than in previous years. *Salmonella typhimurium* and *Salm. Heidelberg* have troubled us before, but *Salm. Meleagridis* and *Salm. Manhattan* are new to the area.



### **Salmonella Typhimurium Infections**

A child aged 4 was admitted to Sheriff Hill Hospital on 28.5.61 suffering from sickness and diarrhoea, and Salm. Typhimurium was found in the faeces. The mother, who admitted having had a slight simultaneous attack of enteritis, was a nurse in a hospital where among other patients she nursed an infant infected with the same organism. This is a classic example of the case to case spread of salmonellosis as has frequently been postulated from the Gateshead experience.

Mrs. "B.W.", aged 65, suffered from diarrhoea and vomiting on 18.7.61. This continued until 21.7.61., when the patient was removed to hospital, where three days later S. Typhimurium was reported in the faeces. The organism was Phage Type I, Var. 5. The patient came from a household in which there were four inhabitants, but the patient maintained a good deal of contact with her daughters and their families. Altogether seven persons with ages ranging from 15 months to over 60 years submitted samples and every one contained Salm. Typhimurium. This family was followed up for several months, and it was not until late October that negative samples were received from the woman's husband and her son, aged 60 years and 39 years respectively.

Mrs. "B.D.", a woman of 76 years, became ill on 28.8.61. with sickness and diarrhoea while on holiday in Scotland. She had some treatment with an antibiotic but returned to Gateshead on 28.8.61 when vomiting and diarrhoea recurred. The faeces were sent by her own doctor for examination and Salm. Typhimurium Phage Type I. Var. 5. was found. Her subsequent progress was uneventful and specimens taken from two close contacts were negative.

"S.W.", a child aged one year, became ill on 17.10.61. with tonsillitis, which cleared up but was followed, on 24.10.61, by sickness and diarrhoea. The faeces were reported on 28.10.61 to contain Salm. Typhimurium. As a result, the household, consisting of the parents and two other children were sampled and an older sister, aged 15 years, was found to be a carrier of the organism. The child continued to be a chronic carrier of Salm. Typhimurium.

On 2.12.61, a boy aged 8 years, "W.G.", developed pain in the abdomen, headache and pyrexia and was sent into hospital, where his faeces were found to show Salm. Typhimurium. His parents were sampled with negative results and the boy himself continued to harbour the organism. Clearance specimens are awaited.

An infant of nine months was found in hospital to harbour Salm. Typhimurium, but as the child came from an adjoining area the investigation was left to the local sanitary authority for that area.

### **Salmonella Meleagridis Infection**

On 1.2.61, a child of 15 months became ill with gastro-enteritis and was sent to hospital, where sample faeces were reported to contain Salm. Meleagridis. The parents of this child had both suffered from illness, but both yielded negative specimens of faeces. The child quickly recovered and became free from infection.

### **Salmonella Heidelberg Infection**

On 11.8.61, a child of seven months became ill with gastro-enteritis, and was removed to hospital next day. The faeces showed the presence of Salm. Heidelberg. The parents and one sibling were sampled, both with negative results.

### **Salmonella Manhattan Infection**

On 27.5.61, a child of two years became ill with diarrhoea and vomiting and was admitted to hospital on 29.5.61. The first specimen of faeces yielded no pathogens, but a second, on 10.6.61, was reported to contain Salm. Manhattan. The family were sampled with negative results. On going into the history it appeared that some pork pies had been purchased and consumed shortly before the onset of the illness, but the parents did not show any symptoms.

On 1.6.61, a woman of 26 years, who was three months pregnant, was admitted to hospital with gastro-enteritis dating back to 26.5.61. Salm. Manhattan was recovered from the faeces. The woman's husband and her three children were sampled with negative results, and it appeared that this incident was one of a group of similar infections in the north-east of England, suggesting the circulation of some infected pork. The patient admitted to having had a pork sandwich three or four days before she was ill, this being purchased in Newcastle.

In the evening of 9.6.61, a man of 45 years became ill, having consumed a pie for dinner at his works' canteen. He got much worse next day and as he has had previous trouble was removed to hospital on 14.6.61. Salm. Manhattan was reported in the faeces five days later and the patient's wife and four children were sampled, as was a son who was in the services and who was home at weekends only. A son aged 20 also yielded Salm. Manhattan, although symptomless. Enquiries into the nature of the food showed that other people had consumed canteen food without suffering any symptoms.

On 25.5.61, a woman of 43 developed vomiting and diarrhoea, which continued until 28.6.61, when she was removed to hospital. Salm. Manhattan was incriminated, and samples of faeces from two other inmates in the household, the woman's husband and her mother, showed that they were also infected with the same organism. A dog who was in the household was free from infection. It was not possible to identify any vehicle.

On 29.9.61, a young married woman, aged 25 years, became ill with gastro-intestinal symptoms and was admitted to hospital on 3.10.61. Salm. Manhattan was found in the faeces. Her husband and her child were both sampled and were found free from infection. It was not possible to find any source of infection in this case.

A man of 58 years, living in Felling, also came to light and the investigation was transferred to the Felling authority.



### **Salmonella unidentified**

A nurse whose home was at Springwell worked as a student nurse in a local hospital. She suffered from enteritis and an organism of the salmonella group was isolated. The patient quickly recovered, but the investigations suggest that this organism was an entirely new type of Salmonella never before isolated. A claim has been lodged that the organism should be identified by a name associated with the town in which it was detected.

### **Non-specific Gastro-enteritis**

A peculiar outbreak attended by pyrexia, nausea and vomiting and, rarely, diarrhoea, occurred among the pupils of a local boarding school. Bacteriological and virological investigations of the infected and of the staff of the school incriminated no pathogenic organisms or virus. It was thought that the continuation of the symptoms was to some extent psychological. At any rate the whole thing cleared up and may well have been originally part of the non-specific enteritis infection that was noted in certain districts of the town.

## **C. TUBERCULOSIS**

### **Report of Dr. S. D. Rowlands**

#### **Consultant Chest Physician**

#### **Chest Clinic, Whinney House Hospital**

The staff of the Chest Clinic consists of 3 Chest Physicians :—Dr. S. D. Rowlands, Dr. L. Feinmann, Dr. K. M. Martischnig ; Chief Clerk, Mr. B. Armatage ; 3 Tuberculosis Nurses, Miss J. Heatley, S.R.N., Mrs. M. Case, S.R.N., Miss E. Fry, S.R.N. ; 1 Radiographer and 4 Female Clerks.

Miss Wilson, S.R.N., previously seconded from the Medical Research Council for special duties during the previous three years re the control of Tuberculosis in Gateshead, terminated her work at the end of May. A full report on the work carried out during this period was given in papers read before the Royal Society of Medicine in February by Dr. Grant, Dr. Feinmann and Dr. Martischnig.

The following clinics have been held regularly throughout the year :—

Dr. Rowlands	..	Monday and Wednesday mornings (new cases) Tuesday and Thursday afternoons (old cases)
Dr. Feinmann	..	Monday afternoon (children's clinic) Monday evening (chronic bronchitics) Tuesday and Thursday mornings (new cases) Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons (old cases)
Dr. Martischnig	..	Friday morning (old cases)

An evening clinic is now held every Wednesday evening from 5.30 p.m. instead of alternate weeks as in previous years.

The 100 mm. Unit at Greenesfield House has continued its usual work. With the loss of the services of Miss Wilson at the end of May the whole work has devolved on Miss Scott as no addition to the Staff has been made. This has resulted in some 1,000 fewer cases being x-rayed in the same number of sessions as in the previous years. There now seems little hope of another relief radiographer being appointed to this unit.

During the year 565 sessions were held at Whinney House Chest Clinic. At Greenesfield X-ray Unit 4,167 films were taken in 351 sessions and from these films 533 patients were referred to Whinney House Chest Clinic for further examination by the Chest Physicians. In the case of Gateshead residents only, 3,601 films were taken and 447 were referred for further review.

At Whinney House Chest Clinic 1,740 new patients were seen during the year (excluding patients for x-ray only) and the total attendance was 7,811 as against 8,056 in 1960.

### *New Cases*

There were 99 new notifications of Tuberculosis during the year (95 P.T. and 4 O.T.D.), a reduction of 32 on the previous year. In addition 16 patients were inwardly transferred from other districts, making a total of 115 new cases added to the register.

Many non-tuberculous chest diseases are referred to the Chest Clinic and the Monday evening clinic has continued to be necessary to review the more chronic type of case.

New notifications with morbidity rates during the past decade are as follows :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of New Cases</i>			<i>Incidence rates per 1,000 population</i>		<i>All forms</i>
	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	
1952	243	28	271	2.12	0.24	2.36
1953	255	42	297	2.24	0.37	2.61
1954	200	25	225	1.76	0.22	1.98
1955	161	28	189	1.42	0.24	1.66
1956	236	20	256	2.1	0.17	2.27
1957	125	18	143	1.12	0.16	1.28
1958	121	11	132	1.11	0.1	1.21
1959	124	16	140	1.136	0.146	1.28
1960	116	15	131	1.068	0.138	1.2
1961	95	4	99	0.919	0.038	0.95

It will be noted that the notifications during 1961 are the lowest on record.

### *Old Cases*

A revised list of chronic sputum positive cases in Gateshead has been compiled and this consists of 18 men and 8 women. Several of these have organisms resistant to the principal anti-tuberculous drugs and require special treatment. Not all of these cases remained sputum positive at

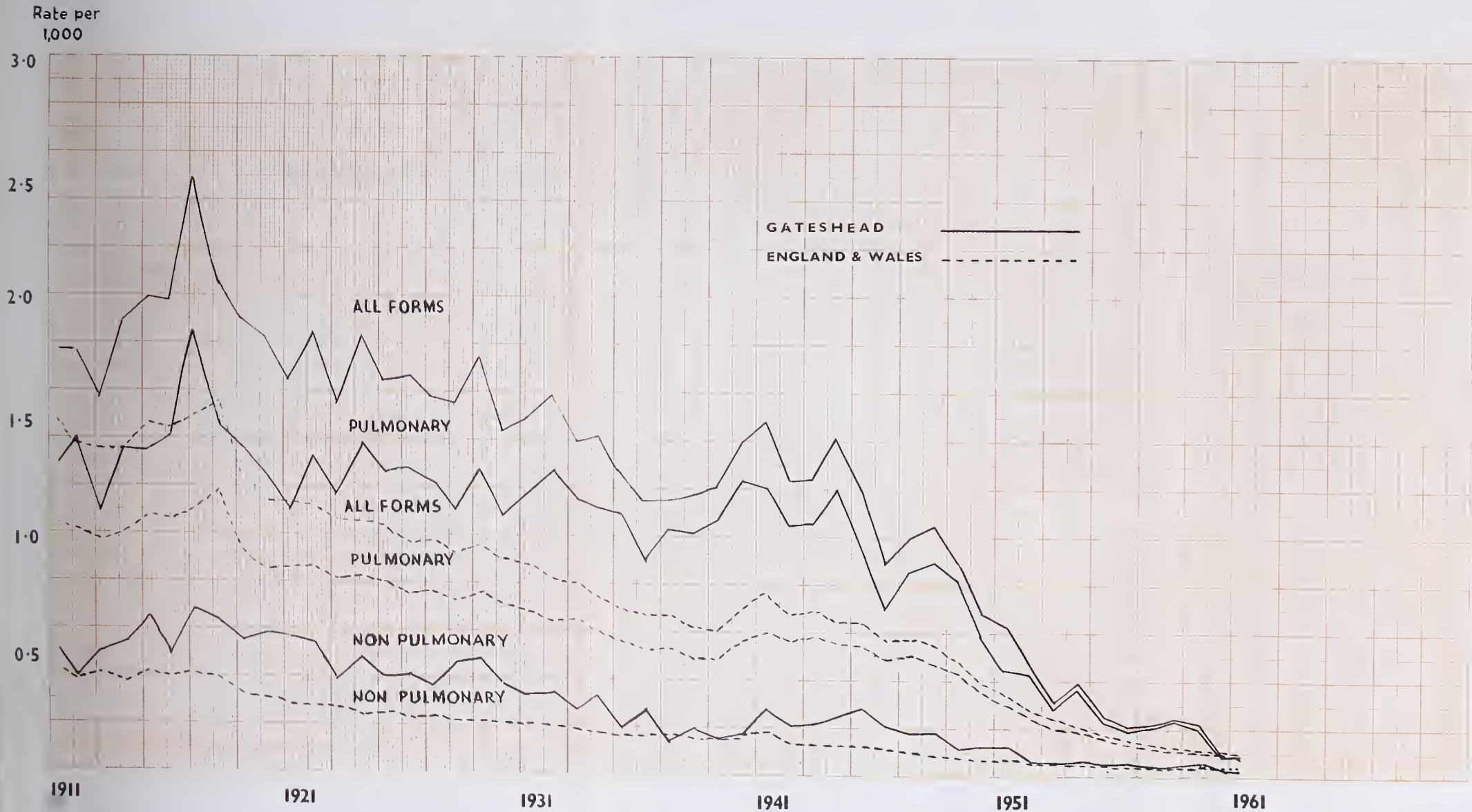


# County Borough of Gateshead

## TUBERCULOSIS

DEATH RATES per 1,000 population

1911 - 1961







the end of the year and only very few are considered as representing any special risk to their contacts.

During the year 65 patients had a positive sputum but the majority were negative by the end of the year following successful treatment. Of the known positive cases 20 were still in hospital on the last day of the year, and in all, 623 other notified cases, who at one time have been positive, are now non-infectious and apparently quiescent or arrested.

### *Contacts*

The usual routine follow up of all personal contacts by the Health Visitors has been continued as usual during the year. 693 new contacts were examined, being 157 fewer than in the previous year, mainly accounted for by the drop in new notifications.

There was, however, a much greater follow up of old contacts (2,558 as against 1,683 in 1960) making a total of 3,251.

Among the contacts examined 19 were found to have tuberculosis and treated and a further 19 were still under observation at the end of the year.

### *Deaths*

15 patients were removed from the register having died during the year but of these only 7 were certified as having died from tuberculosis.

Death Rates for Gateshead were :—

P.T.	..	..	..	..	0.067 per 1,000
O.T.D.	..	..	..	..	Nil

These rates compared with those of England and Wales are as follows:

P.T.	..	..	..	..	0.065 per 1,000
O.T.D.	..	..	..	..	0.007 per 1,000
All forms	..	..	..	..	0.072 per 1,000

The following table shows the total deaths and death rates for the past decade :—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Deaths</i>			<i>Death rates per 1,000 population</i>		<i>All forms</i>
	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>P.T.</i>	<i>O.T.D.</i>	
1952	45	4	49	0.39	0.03	0.42
1953	29	3	32	0.25	0.02	0.27
1954	38	4	42	0.33	0.035	0.36
1955	23	2	25	0.203	0.017	0.22
1956	18	2	20	0.16	0.017	0.177
1957	19	1	20	0.171	0.009	0.18
1958	22	1	23	0.2	0.009	0.209
1959	19	2	21	0.174	0.19	0.193
1960	6	—	6	0.055	—	0.055
1961	7	—	7	0.067	—	0.067

The age distribution of new cases and deaths is given in the appended table :—

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 ..	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-10 ..	7	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
10-15 ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-20 ..	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
20-25 ..	10	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-35 ..	10	5	—	2	—	—	—	—
35-45 ..	8	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
45-55 ..	10	2	—	1	2	—	—	—
55-65 ..	11	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and up	7	1	—	—	4	—	—	—
Totals ..	73	38	1	3	6	1	—	—

### *Domiciliary Visits*

An additional domiciliary visitor has been made to the staff of the Chest Clinic in the person of Miss Fry, S.R.N. Miss Heatley, S.R.N., continues to do all first visits to the homes of the newly notified cases and Miss Fry follows up the non-attenders. The general staff of Health Visitors of the Local Authority continues to supervise all routine cases.

A total of 117 first visits were made and 778 routine re-visits. Miss Fry made 184 special visits at the request of the Chest Physician.

From the housing reports on new cases the following facts were elicited :—

- 20 occupied a separate room
- 9 occupied a separate bed with others in the room
- 82 occupied the same bed as others in the family
- 1 case lived in one room
- 14 cases lived in two rooms
- 28 cases lived in three rooms
- 37 cases lived in four rooms
- 31 cases lived in over four rooms

### *Treatment*

The treatment of T.B. cases in Ward 6, Sheriff Hill I.D. Hospital was terminated on 1st October and since then all cases have been treated in Norman's Riding Hospital or in outside Sanatoria except for a few special cases in Sheriff Hill Hospital by arrangement with Dr. Paxton,



The number of Gateshead residents given institutional treatment during the year is shown in the following table :—

	<i>In hospital on first day of year</i>			<i>Admissions</i>			<i>Discharges</i>			<i>Died</i>			<i>In hospital on last day of year</i>		
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>
Hollywood Hall	1	—	—	4	2	—	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Seaham Hall Hospital	..	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stannington Children's Hos.	—	—	6	—	—	5	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	4
Wooley Sanatorium	..	1	—	12	—	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Sheriff Hill Hospital	..	4	—	37	3	—	39	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
Norman's Riding Hospital	..	1	10	—	183	89	1	170	95	1	1	1	—	13	3
<i>Totals</i>	..	7	10	6	236	95	6	226	99	8	3	2	—	14	4

### *After Care and Rehabilitation*

All cases following their period of hospital treatment are carefully followed up at the Chest Clinic and they continue chemotherapy as out-patients usually for many months. Treatment is prescribed by the Chest Physician who advise the patient's G.P. accordingly.

As soon as a patient is fit for work he is referred to the District Rehabilitation Officer if he cannot return to his old job.

During the year 40 new patients were so referred and of these, together with patients from the previous year, he was able to place 18 in suitable employment. 7 patients were referred to the Felling Rehabilitation Unit.

The After Care-Committee of the Gateshead Health Committee continued to supply assistance in many forms to those cases referred for help.

### *B.C.G. Vaccinations*

B.C.G. vaccination is offered to all tuberculin negative reactors among T.B. contacts. These are mainly children and vaccination is usually readily accepted.

During the year a total of 303 contacts were vaccinated and also 14 members of the hospital staff. There have been no abnormal reactions or complications noted in any of these cases. 3 children were re-vaccinated,

The following table gives a resume of the work of the Chest Clinic during 1961 :—

	<i>Respiratory</i>			<i>Non-respiratory</i>			<i>Total</i>			<i>Grand Total</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Ch.</i>	
A. 1. Number of notified cases of T.B. on clinic register on 1st January, 1961. . .	537	447	78	38	61	18	575	508	96	1,111
2. Transfers from clinics under H.M.C.'s or B.G.'s during the year . . . .	9	7	—	—	—	—	9	7	—	
3. Children transferred to adults during the year . .	6	1	—	1	—	—	7	1	—	
4. Cases lost sight of which returned to the clinic during the year . . . .	6	5	—	—	—	—	6	5	—	
B. Number of New Cases diagnosed as T.B. during the year										
T.B. Minus . . . . .	19	10	22	—	3	1	19	13	23	
T.B. Plus . . . . .	30	14	—	—	—	—	30	14	—	
Totals of A and B . .	607	484	100	39	64	19	646	548	119	1,333
C. Number of cases in A and B written off Clinic register during the year :										
(1) Recovered . . . . .	40	59	8	3	8	1	43	67	9	119
(2) Died (all causes) . .	12	2	—	1	—	—	13	2	—	
(3) Removed to other HMC or B.G. clinics . . . . .	33	28	3	2	4	1	35	32	4	
(4) Children transferred to adults during the year . .	—	—	7	—	—	1	—	—	8	
(5) Other reasons . . . . .	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	
Total of C. . . . .	86	90	19	6	13	3	92	103	22	215
D. 1. Number of notified cases of T.B. on clinic register on 31st December, 1961	521	394	81	33	51	16	554	445	97	1,096
2. Number of above known to have had a positive sputum within the preceding 12 months . . . .	44	24	—	—	—	—	44	24	—	68
E. (a) Number of persons (excluding transfers) first examined during the year	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,062	2,079	799	4,940
(b) Number of those in (a) who attended as contacts who were :										
(1) Diagnosed as tuberculous . . . . .	6	2	11	—	—	—	6	2	11	19
(2) Not tuberculous . . . . .	97	158	400	—	—	—	97	158	400	655
(3) Not determined (as at 31st December 1961) . . . . .	2	—	17	—	—	—	2	—	17	19
F. Number of patients on clinic register awaiting admission to T.B. institution . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1. Number of attendances at the clinic including contacts . . . . .	11,677			2. Number of sputum Specimens examined			2,766			

S. D. ROWLANDS,  
Consultant Chest Physician



## D. VENEREAL DISEASES

Return relating to Gateshead Cases treated at Ward 34,  
Newcastle General Hospital, 1961

			Conditions other than						Totals						
			Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Venereal		1961		1960	1959	1958		
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	Total				
Patients under treatment or observation on January 1st	..	..	60	74	4	—	13	4	77	78	155	174	177	208	
Cases returned	..	..	2	5	—	—	—	—	2	5	7	—	4	5	
Cases transferred from other wards	..	..	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	3	3	1	—	
Cases :															
Syphilis :															
Primary	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Secondary	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	
Latent, 1st year of infection	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Cardio-vascular	..	..	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	2	3	1	
Of the nervous system	..	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	
All other late or latent stages	..	..	3	1	—	—	—	—	3	1	4	3	10	8	
Congenital	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Gonorrhoea	..	..	—	—	33	13	—	—	33	13	46	31	29	21	
Other conditions :															
Chancroid	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Lymphogranuloma Venereum	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Granuloma inguinale	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-gonococcal urethritis	..	..	—	—	—	—	20	—	20	—	20	29	24	20	
Chlamydia	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other conditions requiring treatment	..	..	—	—	—	—	27	19	27	19	46	35	26	37	
Conditions not requiring treat- ment	..	..	—	—	—	—	50	16	50	16	66	69	94	49	
Undiagnosed conditions	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	
Totals	..	..	70	80	37	13	112	39	219	132	351	350	370	352	
Patients completing treatment and/or observation	..	..	3	8	20	13	95	33	118	54	172	169	166	131	
Patients transferred elsewhere	..	..	6	—	7	—	5	1	18	1	19	12	18	23	
Patients not completing treat- ment and/or observation	..	..	6	2	2	—	—	—	8	2	10	14	12	21	
Patients under treatment on December 31st	..	..	55	70	8	—	12	5	75	75	150	155	174	177	
Totals	..	..	70	80	37	13	112	39	219	132	351	350	370	352	
No. of attendances for medical treatment	..	..								1724	845	2569	2426	2293	2034
No. of attendances for inter- mediate treatment	..	..								100	—	100	110	141	195

W. V. MACFARLANE, M.D., D.P.H.,

Physician in Charge

## PART IV

## WELFARE AND OTHER SERVICES

(Including the Reports of the  
Director of Welfare Services, Mr. J. A. Armstrong)

## A. WELFARE SERVICES (Report by Director of Welfare Services)

## Staff

*Administrative and Welfare*

Chief Clerk .. ..	.. Mr. M. McKenna
Social Welfare Officers :	
Aged Persons .. ..	.. Mr. J. J. Duffy
Aged Persons .. ..	.. Mr. R. Johnston
Deaf Persons .. ..	.. Mr. R. Hall
Blind Persons .. ..	.. Miss J. Weatherston
Handicapped Persons	.. Mr. G. Sweeney
Assistant Welfare Officer	.. Miss J. Slipper
Assistant Welfare Officer	.. Miss M. Rodgers
Assistant Welfare Officer	.. Mr. J. Skelton
Administrative Assistant ..	.. Mr. J. Coates
Shorthand Typist .. ..	.. Miss J. Rutherford
Clerk/Copy Typist .. ..	.. Miss D. Burnell
Junior Clerk .. ..	.. Mr. K. Mitchell
Messenger/Boilerman .. ..	.. Mr. D. McCullough

*Residential Homes and Handicrafts Centre**Fountain View Aged Persons Home*

Matron .. .. Miss K. M. Moore, S.R.N., S.C.M.

*Beacon View Aged Persons Hostel*

Cook/Housekeeper .. .. Mrs. M. Hume

*Birchholme Aged Persons Hostel*

Cook/Housekeeper .. .. Mrs. M. Healy

*Holly House—Temporary Accommodation*

Caretaker .. .. Mr. J. Bewick

Assistant Caretaker .. .. Mrs. N. Bewick

*Holly House Social Centre*

Handicraft Instructresses .. Mrs. E. Thompson  
Miss M. Reed

In addition there are 83 full-time and 5 part-time staff employed on attendant, domestic and maintenance duties at the various establishments.

**Residential Homes**

Accommodation is provided in the County Borough for those who by reason of age, infirmity, or other circumstances, are in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them. (This does not include sick persons who require constant nursing care or treatment in hospital). A standard maintenance charge is fixed by the Welfare Services Committee but this may be reduced according to the financial circumstances of the resident.



During the year the work of modernising Fountain View has gone ahead with very little inconvenience to the residents. Handrails are now completely fitted to all corridors and passages, all windows have been curtained with bright materials. Progress is being made with a scheme of relighting of a more homely type and more bedroom furniture is being introduced.

In the interests of economy as well as to make the gardens available to the residents, the growing of vegetables has ceased and the land grassed down prior to the introduction of informal flower beds. A verandah leading by means of a ramp to the gardens has also been constructed with French windows opening to it from the main corridor.

The number of persons accommodated at the beginning and end of the year together with the number of admissions and discharges are given in the table below :—

	<i>Resident at 1.1.61</i>	<i>Admissions including re- admissions</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Transfer to Hospital</i>	<i>Other reasons</i>	<i>Resident at 31.12.61</i>
<i>Own Homes</i>						
Fountain View .. ..	265	134	61	39	43	256
Beacon View .. ..	16	17	1	8	10	14
Bircholme .. ..	19	20	3	9	11	16
<i>Other Local Authority Homes</i>						
Wiltshire C.C. .. ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
Middlesex C.C. .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Breakspeare House ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
<i>Voluntary Homes</i>						
Home for Aged Jews ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Mutual Aid Home ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Ernest Ayliffe Home ..	—	1	—	—	—	1
Oaklands Home for Blind	—	1	—	—	—	1
	304	174	65	56	64	293

**Classification of Residents in Local Authority Residential Homes  
as at 31st December, 1961**

	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	80-89	90 over	Total
Fountain View .. ..	14	21	31	88	92	10	256
Beacon View .. ..	—	—	—	2	12	—	14
Bircholme .. ..	—	—	—	6	10	—	16
<i>Totals</i> .. ..	14	21	31	96	114	10	286

**Health Classification of Residents in Residential Homes**

	<i>Fountain View</i>		<i>Bircholme</i>		<i>Beacon View</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>		
Aged (not materially handicapped) .. ..	68	103	12	7	5		195
Blind .. ..	2	4	—	—	1		7
Deaf .. ..	1	—	—	—	—		1
Epileptic .. ..	1	—	—	—	—		1
Other Physically Handicapped ..	27	19	3	1	2		52
Mentally Handicapped .. ..	18	12	—	—	—		30
<i>Total</i> .. ..	117	138	15	8	8		286

## Residential Accommodation—Analysis of Admissions

### Direct Admissions

(a) <i>Formerly living independently—</i>							
(1)	in own house as tenants or owner occupier	..	..	..	..	..	31
(2)	in private lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	1
(b) <i>Formerly living with relatives (whether as the householder or not) and—</i>							
(1)	Home overcrowded	..	..	..	..	..	—
(2)	presence causing domestic discord	..	..	..	..	..	4
(3)	relatives incapable of continuing to give necessary care	..	..	..	..	..	23

From Other Areas .. .. . 1

### Transfer from Hospital and originally admitted to Hospital from

(1)	residential accommodation	..	..	..	..	..	26
(2)	own home — living independently	..	..	..	..	..	9
(3)	private lodgings	..	..	..	..	..	—
(4)	relatives home or own home, where cared for by relatives	..	..	..	..	..	2

Short Stay Cases .. .. . 1

Compulsory Removal Cases — Section 47 .. .. . 1

## Amenities Available to Residents

As far as possible every endeavour is made to make the hostels as near real homes as practicable. Recreation facilities, newspapers and periodicals are provided and a library service is available for which thanks are due to the Public Library Services.

Residents are provided, if it is their wish, with suitable clothing and receive comforts such as sweets and tobacco or cigarettes. Facilities exist for religious worship and residents are encouraged to use the Home as if it were their own and feel free to visit and be visited by friends.

In the course of the year a large number of concerts, weekly film shows and other forms of entertainment have been given at the Homes. Thanks are due once again to members of various organisations and local individuals for the great interest shown.

Particular regard must be paid to the regular weekly service provided by the Womens Voluntary Service in the sale to residents at Fountain View of all manner of articles which from time to time they desire, the profits from these sales being used for the provision of additional amenities.

## Domiciliary Care

It is universally agreed that old people should as far as possible be helped to continue to live in their own homes. This is not only an ideal but an economic necessity due to the ever increasing number of people of retirement age.

Social Welfare Officers are always available to visit, advise and help elderly people in their own homes. They provide a link between Statutory and Voluntary Services and any elderly person in difficulty is encouraged to contact the Welfare Services Department.



The Welfare Officers have dealt with 1,035 cases during the year and whilst there has been an increase in the numbers requiring accommodation and other services, it is noted that quite a number of them have arisen from limited financial resources and lack of knowledge of benefits available to them.

### Temporary Accommodation—Holly House

The Welfare Services Department is responsible for providing such accommodation for persons in urgent need, being need which has arisen through no fault of their own and which could not reasonably have been foreseen or such other circumstances which may be decided.

Accommodation is available for 8 families but is provided only when every effort to find alternative accommodation has failed.

It is pleasing to report that during the period under review the numbers accommodated are the lowest on record. It is recognised that a prolonged stay in temporary accommodation, which does not pretend to approach what is normally regarded as the standard for permanent housing, has an adverse effect upon the families concerned and it is necessary in some cases to introduce rehabilitation measures to ensure that strenuous efforts are made to correct the misapprehension that the accommodation provided is of a permanent nature. Encouragement is given to these families to pursue vigorously every opportunity of securing other accommodation.

Details of families accommodated during the year are as follows :—

	<i>Families</i>	<i>Persons</i>
1st January, 1961 ..	4	16
Admissions during the year	3	15
Discharges .. .. .	3	13
Accommodated at 31st December, 1961	4	18

### Burials

Arrangements were made by the Department for 14 funerals under the duties laid upon the Authority to bury or cremate the body of any person who has died or been found dead in the Council's area where it appears that no suitable arrangements have been made or are being made.

Opportunity was taken to obtain reimbursement of the expenses involved or as much thereof as possible by claim upon insurance, death grants, etc.

Comparable figures are given below :—

<i>Year Ended</i>	<i>No. of Funerals</i>	<i>Gross Cost</i>	<i>Amount Recovered</i>
31st December, 1961	14	£262 9s. 0d,	£214 11s. 5d,

### **Disinfestation**

12 premises found by the Department to be verminous were disinfested by the Health Department, at our request, during the year.

### **Removal of Persons under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act**

It was fortunately only necessary to use the powers contained in Section 47 on one occasion during the year. A number of cases were brought to the attention of the Department but it was possible in the other cases to persuade them to enter hospital or residential accommodation voluntarily.

### **Care and Protection of Property**

It has been necessary on 21 occasions during the year to implement the duty imposed on the Council of Section 48 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 to protect the movable property of persons admitted to hospital or residential accommodation.

The first step in arranging for the safeguarding of property is to ascertain whether any relative is prepared to accept responsibility for its safe custody, and if not, then it becomes the duty of the Department to take necessary precautions. The action to be taken varies according to circumstances but normally it includes ensuring that the premises in which the property is housed are properly secured, notifying the Police of persons absence, making an inventory and removing money and valuables for safe custody.

### **Meals on Wheels Service**

The mobile meals service is operated by the Women's Voluntary Service and in which the Welfare Services Committee participate by way of financial assistance towards the cost of the meals. These facilities are of paramount importance to the well being of elderly persons who have difficulty in preparing their own mid-day meals and any possible extension of these services is always desirable.

A total of 3,845 meals were provided during the year at a reduced cost of 9d. per meal, payable by the recipient.

### **Receiverships**

It was not necessary to make application for the Borough Treasurer to be appointed Receiver of income of persons deemed to be temporarily unable to manage their own affairs.

Several persons however were given information and advice regarding affairs of their relatives and friends who had been admitted to hospital and where management of affairs was under consideration.



## Aged Persons' Register

It is reported that since the commencement of the Aged Person's Register in April, 1960, 2,646 persons have been visited. Information had shown that 206 persons were living alone and requested regular friendly visiting. Such visits are beyond the scope of the Officers of the Department and arrangements for visiting are referred to the Old People's Welfare Committee of the Gateshead Council of Social Service who act as a liaison authority to co-ordinate the activities of all voluntary organisations to provide for the most suitable type of visitor.

<i>Classification</i>					<i>Living Alone</i>	<i>Living with Relatives</i>
Upstairs	..	..	..	..	300	673
Downstairs	..	..	..	..	493	655
Self-contained	..	..	..	..	99	426
Rented	..	..	..	..	849	1,631
Owned	..	..	..	..	43	123
Deaf	..	..	..	..	3	8
Blind	..	..	..	..	4	13
Partially Sighted	..	..	..	..	29	38
Hard of Hearing	..	..	..	..	26	40
Epileptic	..	..	..	..	2	2
Home Help	..	..	..	..	138	132
Chiropody	..	..	..	..	84	99
Meals on Wheels	..	..	..	..	10	18
Visit by Voluntary Organisation	..	..	..	..	82	24
District Nurse or Health Visitor	..	..	..	..	25	19
Attending Old Peoples' Clubs	..	..	..	..	151	162
Health — Good	..	..	..	..	252	664
Fair	..	..	..	..	345	488
Poor	..	..	..	..	295	602
Christmas Parcels received	..	..	..	..	500	254

## Co-operation with Voluntary Organisations interested in the Welfare of the Aged

During the year further progress has been made in securing close co-operation with the various voluntary agencies in the Borough, particularly with the re-constituted Old People's Welfare Committee and the Gateshead Council of Social Service. One particular aspect of the year's work has been the drive to recruit private persons for the purpose of regular friendly visiting of the aged and reference must be made to the course of lectures arranged for these visitors.

At Christmas time the Department offered its services as a clearing house for the checking of names of aged persons who were to receive parcels from voluntary funds and due to the spirit of co-operation which prevailed, very little duplication of names took place among those organisations participating in the scheme. In other words more needy

cases received parcels than ever before. Particular regard must be paid to the hours of voluntary work performed by the Staff of the Department in this respect.

### Blue Cross Service for Old People

Blue Cross Cards are available to all old people and others who may need assistance due to illness or those who are unable to obtain assistance by other means. The card is placed in the window of the person requiring help and gives the appropriate instructions to persons reading as to what they should do. Although a great number of these cards were distributed during the year, no emergency measures resulting from the display of the cards have been reported.

### Pre-Paid Post Card Service

Arrangements have continued during the year with the Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance and the National Assistance Board Officers together with the appropriate Local Authority Officers for the distributing of pre-paid post cards to aged persons. The post card draws attention to the various welfare services which are available in the area and requests that should the recipient be interested, would he or she please put their name and address on the card and post it, no stamp being necessary.

It is also pointed out that even though there may be no particular problem at the moment the card should be retained for use if at some future time the service can be of help.

During the year 1,250 of the cards were distributed and 506 were returned to the Department by persons requesting further information. The classification of the services provided is shown below :—

Cards returned to the Department during the year requesting further information . . . . .			506
<i>Department Referred</i>		<i>Services Provided</i>	
National Assistance Board	Financial Assistance		129
Health Services	Chiropody Treatment		204
Health Services	Home Help		48
Womens Voluntary Service	Meals on Wheels		63
Old People's Welfare Committee	Voluntary Visiting		42
Miscellaneous			20
			506

## Welfare of the Blind

### *Registration and Other Statistics*

Statistics concerning the blind are collated on a regional basis and are drawn up by local authorities or societies. The figures are analysed according to age groups, sex, cause of blindness, age at onset of blindness, occupation and other points of interest. As a result of this and of the fact

that there is a financial incentive to register, the available information concerning the evidence of blindness is of quite a different order of accuracy than that relating to any other disability.

A summary of details prepared on the 31st December of each year is shown in the various tables below.

### *Register*

The elderly gradually going blind now form a high proportion of new registrations. The number of Registered Blind Persons has decreased by one during the year.

Number on Register at 1st January, 1961	247
Number examined and certified blind ..	23
Number transferred from other Authorities	2
	<hr/>
	272
Deaths .. .. .	23
Transferred to other Authorities .. ..	3
Decertified .. .. .	—
	<hr/>
Number on Register at 31st December, 1961	246 persons

### *Classification of Registered Blind Persons*

			Male	Female	Total	Age Groups	
<hr/>							
<i>Children Under 16 years</i>							
Educable..	..	..	3	2	5		
Uneducable	..	..	1	—	1		
<i>Employed Blind Persons</i>							
<i>Workshops for the Blind</i>							
Basket Workers		..	5	—	5	21-39	3
Mattress Makers		..	1	—	1	40-49	6
Brush Makers	..	..	4	—	4	50-59	5
Mat Makers	..	..	7	—	7	60-64	4
Upholsterer	..	..	1	—	1		
<i>Open Industry</i>							
Piano Tuner	..	..	1	—	1	16-20	3
Shopkeepers	..	..	2	—	2	21-39	2
Telephone Operators	..		2	—	2	40-49	3
General Labourer		..	1	—	1	50-59	2
Telephone Cord Repairer			1	—	1	60-64	1
Shorthand Typist	..		1	—	1	65 over	2
Miscellaneous	..	..	3	2	5		
<i>Not Employed</i>							
<i>Unemployable but capable of and available for work</i>							
<i>Sheltered Employment</i>							
(trained)	..	..	1	—	1		
Open Industry (trained)			2	—	2		
<i>Not Available for Work</i>			16	32	48	16-59	37
						60-64	11
<i>Not Capable of Work</i>			5	9	14	16-59	11
						60-64	6
<i>Not Working (65 and over)</i>			44	100	144	65 over	144
					<hr/>		
					246		



*Causes of Blindness*

						<i>Age in Years</i>				
						0-4	5-14	15-60	Over 60	Total
<i>Congenital Causes :</i>										
Cataract	..	..	..	..	—		1	2	4	7
Nystagmus	..	..	..	..	—		2	2	3	7
Albinism	..	..	..	..	—		—	2	—	2
Retrolental Fibroplasia			..	..	—		2	—	—	2
Absence of eyes	..	..	..	..	—		—	1	—	1
Others	..	..	..	..	—		—	6	2	8
<i>Accidents :</i>										
Trauma	..	..	..	..	—		—	12	5	17
<i>Diseases of Refractive Media :</i>										
Iritis	..	..	..	..	—		—	—	1	1
Keratitis	..	..	..	..	—		—	5	6	11
Ophthalmia neonatorum			..	..	—		—	3	4	7
Cataract	..	..	..	..	—		—	2	70	72
Myopia	..	..	..	..	—		—	3	5	8
Other	..	..	..	..	—		—	—	1	1
<i>Diseases of Perceptive Media :</i>										
Retinal Disease	..	..	..	..	—		—	7	20	27
Optic Atrophy	..	..	..	..	—		—	6	10	16
Sequel to brain disease			..	..	—		—	2	1	3
Glaucoma	..	..	..	..	—		—	2	20	22
Arterial Disease	..	..	..	..	—		—	3	6	9
<i>Systemic Disease :</i>										
Syphilis	..	..	..	..	—		—	6	7	13
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	—		—	—	3	3
<i>Other Causes :</i>										
	..	..	..	..	—		—	2	7	9
						—	5	66	175	246

*Blind Persons Physically and Mentally Defective and Disordered*

							Male	Female	Total
(a)	Mentally Sub-Normal	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
(b)	Physically Defective	..	..	..	..	..	7	19	26
(c)	Deaf without Speech	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
(d)	Deaf with Speech	..	..	..	..	..	2	7	9
(e)	Hard of Hearing	..	..	..	..	..	4	13	17
(f)	Mentally Sub-normal and deaf with speech	..	..				—	2	2
(g)	Mentally Sub-normal and hard of hearing	..	..				1	—	1
(h)	Physically defective and deaf with speech	..	..				1	—	1
(i)	Physically defective and hard of hearing	..	..				—	2	2

*Blind Persons in Residential and Hospital Accommodation*

							Male	Female	Total
	Fountain View	..	..	..	..	..	2	9	11
	Other Homes	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
	Hospital for Mentally Ill	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3
	Hospital for Mentally Sub-normal	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4

*Blind Persons Registered as New Cases (excluding recertifications and transfers from other areas) during the year — 23 persons*

*Age at Date of Registration.*

		16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90 Over	Total
Male ..	..	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	—	—	—	8
Female ..	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	5	5	—	15
Total ..	..	1	—	—	—	1	2	3	6	5	5	—	23

*Age at onset of Blindness*

		16-20	21-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-64	65-69	70-79	80-84	85-89	90 Over	Total
Male ..	..	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	3	—	—	—	7
Female ..	..	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	3	6	3	—	16
Total ..	..	1	—	—	1	3	1	2	6	6	3	—	23

The Ophthalmologist has examined 48 new cases during the year with the following results :—

Certified Blind .. ..	23
Certified Partially Sighted ..	15
Not Certified .. ..	10

*Registration*

The numbers of Registered Blind Persons in age groups for the last eight years are as follows :—

		Under 21	21-49	50-64	65-69	Over 70	Total	Male	Female
1954 ..	..	7	42	61	37	139	286	128	158
1955 ..	..	7	41	62	31	131	272	121	151
1956 ..	..	10	41	61	27	133	272	122	150
1957 ..	..	10	39	59	30	136	274	118	156
1958 ..	..	10	41	53	36	127	267	115	152
1959 ..	..	8	36	54	35	122	255	115	140
1960 ..	..	7	34	62	24	120	247	101	146
1961 ..	..	9	35	63	25	114	246	100	146

*Follow-up of Registered Blind Persons*

The additional information required by the Minister of Health in this circular dealing with the Annual Report for 1953 is given in the following table :—

		Cause of Disability			
		Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(1) No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. F. of form B.D.8 (rev. 1957) recommends :					
(a) no treatment .. ..	..	3	—	—	10
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) .. ..	..	7	3	—	1
		10	3	—	11
(2) No. of cases at 1 (b) above, which on follow-up action received treatment		4	3	—	1

### *Home Visiting Service*

The regular visiting of the Registered Blind and Partially Sighted has been maintained and the service has been augmented by the engagement of Assistant Welfare Officers to undertake the less complex duties thus allowing the qualified Officer to concentrate her knowledge, skill and experience to the best possible advantage for those requiring special training and attention.

1,568 visits were made during the year.

### *Overcoming Disability*

In assisting newly blind persons to overcome the effects of their disability the Social Welfare Officer helps to ease the shock and demonstrate ways in which normal activities can be continued to a greater or lesser degree. Arrangements are made for Ophthalmic Examinations and advice on the financial and other benefits available is given. The possibility of social or industrial rehabilitation is also considered.

### *Instruction in Handicrafts and simple diversary occupations*

Classes have been held at the Social Centre, Prince Consort Road, on two afternoons per week and features include handicrafts, embossed literature, talking book, concerts, games and the provision of light refreshments at every session.

### *Voluntary Society and special Grants and assistance*

Various Voluntary Associations have given special grants and assistance covering deserving cases.

### *National Library for the Blind*

The Library is supported by voluntary contributions and its deficits are made up by Local Authority grants assessed on a "per capita" basis.

The annual grant made for the year 1961 was £109. Approximately 28 blind readers take advantage of the service.

### *Holidays, Hostel Accommodation, etc.*

Blind Persons and guides so desiring enjoy holidays at special homes for the blind, The Haven, Scarborough, and Craven Lodge, Harrogate, throughout the season.

Holiday grants contributing towards the cost of holidays were available from the Newcastle and Gateshead Voluntary Society for the Blind.

### *Workshops for the Adult Blind*

The main provision of sheltered employment for blind persons in the Tyne Area is by way of occupation in the Workshops, Whickham View, Newcastle upon Tyne. 21 Blind persons from Gateshead are employed at the Workshops which are administered by a Joint Management Committee.



A variety of trades are followed and include basket work, brush making, mat making, etc. It is significant that in almost all respects the standards and output compare favourably with the national average.

The total wages earned by blind workers amounted to £25,083 2s. 9d. equivalent to an average of £4. 1s. 0d. per worker per week. Augmentation payments amounted to £31,250 19s. 10d., equivalent to £5. 0s. 11d. per week per worker.

Financial assistance towards the cost of maintaining the Workshops facilities and towards cost of improvements, alterations and new machinery is apportioned between the constituent Local Authorities, Newcastle upon Tyne, Gateshead, South Shields and Northumberland County Council.

The contribution made by the Local Authority for the financial year 1960/61 amounted to £9,061 15s. 0d.

### Welfare of the Partially Sighted

The number of persons Registered as Partially Sighted at 1st January, 1961, are as follows :—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1961	56
Number of cases examined and certified ..	8
	<hr/> 64
Deaths .. .. .	4
Transferred to other Authorities .. .. .	—
Certified Blind .. .. .	1
Decertified due to improved vision .. .. .	1
	<hr/> 58
	<hr/> <hr/>

### Classification of Registered Partially Sighted Persons

	Male	Female	Total	Age Group
<i>Persons near and prospectively Blind</i>				
Employed .. .. .	1	—	1	21-49 1
Undergoing Training .. .. .	—	—	—	21-49 2
Unemployed —capable of work .. .. .	1	—	1	50-64 1
—not capable of work .. .. .	7	25	32	50-64 5
				65 over 25
<i>Persons mainly industrially handicapped</i>				
Employed .. .. .	2	1	3	16-20 —
				21-49 3
				50-56 —
Undergoing training .. .. .	—	—	—	21-49 4
Unemployed —capable of work .. .. .	1	2	3	21-49 —
—not capable of work .. .. .	—	1	1	
<i>Persons requiring observation only</i>				
Aged 16 and over .. .. .	5	9	14	16-20 1
				21-49 3
				50-64 2
				65 over 8
<i>Children aged 5 and under 16</i>				
Educable .. .. .	—	2	2	
<i>Children under 5</i>				
Educable .. .. .	—	1	1	
			<hr/> 58	
			<hr/> <hr/>	

### Follow-up of Registered Partially Sighted Persons

	Cause of Disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(1) No. of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. F. of Form B.D.8 (rev. 1957) recommends:				
(a) no treatment .. .. .	—	—	—	3
(b) treatment (medical, surgical or optical) .. .. .	5	1	—	—
	5	1	—	3
(2) Cases at 1 (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ..	2	1	—	—

### Welfare of the Deaf

The following changes in the Register of the Deaf have taken place during the year :—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1961	202
New Registrations .. .. .	4
Removals into Area .. .. .	1
	207
Deaths .. .. .	3
Removals out of Area .. .. .	1
	203

### Classification of Registered Deaf Persons

	Under 16		16-64		65 Over		Total		Accum. Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Deaf without Speech	—	—	34	35	6	7	40	42	82
Deaf with Speech ..	14	7	8	11	2	1	24	19	43
Hard of Hearing ..	3	—	21	19	13	22	37	41	78
	17	7	63	65	21	30	101	102	203

During the year new arrangements for the classifying of cases for registration were adopted on a national basis, as above.

Formerly two registers were maintained, one for the deaf and another for the hard of hearing.

### Assistance in Securing Employment

The majority of deaf men and women are capable of becoming very skilled in many forms of employment, given the opportunity. Much



perseverance and hard work is given in conjunction with the Youth Employment Service and the Ministry of Labour Employment Service in assisting the deaf to obtain and retain employment.

Work placements were found for 9 persons during the year and the analysis of placings is as follows :—

<i>Job</i>				<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Window Cleaner	..	..		1	—	1
General Labourer	..	..		3	—	3
Tailoring Machinist	..	..		—	1	1
Domestic	..	..	..	—	1	1
Bakery Hand	..	..	..	—	1	1
Metal Polisher	..	..	..	1	—	1
Factory Machinist	..	..		—	1	1
<i>Total</i>	..	..	..	5	4	9

### *Practical Assistance*

Many occasions arise when deaf people need the services of an interpreter to assist them with the more complex events of daily life, ranging from interviews of official or private business to help them in domestic worries. In common with hearing people they need advice on problems which occur even more so because of their limitations in certain ways.

The services of the Social Welfare Officer are always available to help the deaf lead full, happy and useful lives.

Unlike the true deaf many of the hard of hearing grow up with normal hearing and are more able to maintain contact with the hearing world, particularly since the provision of hearing aids through the National Health Service.

The Social Welfare Officer is always available to give advice and instruction. He encourages self help, the practice of lip reading and use of hearing aids and advises on employment and other difficulties.

### *Home Visiting*

353 Visits were made to the homes of deaf by the Social Welfare Officer during the year.

### *Recreational Facilities and Social Centre*

The Centre is open for social activities on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings and has an average attendance of 27 each night.

Apart from the normal type of social activities special seasonal activities are held such as parties, whist drives in the winter and coach tours, etc., in the summer.

At the end of the year with the redecoration and opening of the "Coffee Bar" a marked increase in attendance at the Centre was apparent.

The services of the W.V.S. in running the catering arrangements has undoubtedly encouraged the attendance of many of the younger deaf. The Social Welfare Officers concerned by their enthusiasm and foresight in the introduction of new activities and co-operation with other Deaf Centres in the North East has gone a long way towards making the Gateshead Centre so popular.

### Welfare of the Physically Handicapped (General Classes)

The Department's visiting and case work services have been further increased during the year. 438 Cases were visited by the Social Welfare Officer compared with 398 the previous year.

The nature of the social work performed demands a high degree of understanding of the problems which confront the various classes of handicapped persons and of the means to be adopted to ensure their greater comfort and wellbeing.

The following changes in the Register have taken place during the year :—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1961	103
Removals into Area .. .. .	—
New cases Registered .. .. .	6
	<hr/>
	109
Deaths .. .. .	2
Removals out of Area .. .. .	—
	<hr/>
	107
	<hr/>

The figure shown above must not be taken as representative of the total disabled population of the Borough as Registration is purely voluntary. The Department continued to welcome new registrations with a view to assisting where possible.

### *Classification of Registered Persons*

The classification of Registered Persons is as follows :—

Epileptics .. .. .	14
Disseminated Sclerosis .. .. .	11
Spastic .. .. .	6
Polio .. .. .	13
Parkinsonians .. .. .	4
Accidents and Injuries .. .. .	13
Heart and Respiratory Condition .. .. .	20
Arthritic and Rheumatic .. .. .	9
Others .. .. .	17
	<hr/>
	107
	<hr/>

### *Adaptations*

The Welfare Services Committee are authorised to incur expenditure on alterations to the homes of handicapped persons so as to assist them to overcome the effects of their disability. A great deal of useful work has been done in this regard.

Most of the applications arise as a result of the proposed issue of wheelchairs or invalid vehicles by the Ministry of Health. Other adaptations have involved widening doorways to allow passage of wheelchairs, fixing handgrips in bathrooms and providing handrails alongside stairs where necessary.

The total cost of the work was £75 10s. 0d. of which £32 was recovered.

### *Car Badges for Disabled Drivers*

To help disabled drivers to overcome parking difficulties, special car badges are available for all who wish to apply. The badges issued are displayed at the front and rear of the vehicle and will identify the driver as a disabled person and help the Police to assist in every way possible.

The badges do not give any legal right or privileges and are issued free. 28 Persons took advantage of this service during the year.

### *Holly House—Handicapped Persons' Centre*

The Handicapped Persons' Centre is open for handicraft sessions on Monday and Thursday afternoons and on Monday evenings each week.

Average Attendance —	Monday afternoon	14
	Monday evening	13
	Thursday afternoon	17

### *Recreation Facilities and Social Centre*

The Centre is open for social activities each Thursday evening and has had an average attendance of 20 handicapped persons.

Apart from the normal type of social activities, special seasonal functions are held such as parties and pantomime visits in the winter and coach tours, etc., in the summer.

During the year a car-park for motor tricycles and handicapped persons' vehicles was made available adjoining the Centre thus further improving the facilities.

Library facilities continued to be a useful addition to Centre activities.

### *Transport Arrangements during the Year*

The Ambulance Service transported handicapped persons to and from the Social Centre at a cost of £246 9s. 0d.

## **B. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 (Section 47)**

Five cases were referred to the Medical Officer of Health for possible action under the above Act.



Information as to the cases was received from the family practitioner, public health inspector, relatives and neighbours.

In two cases the necessary certificate under the National Assistance Act was issued (one urgency certificate under the Amendment Act), and as a result one case was removed to Bensham General Hospital on a court order and the other entered the same hospital voluntarily. Both persons died during the year.

Of the remaining three cases, one was admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington, under Section 25 of the Mental Health Act, and the other two were kept under surveillance.

### C. EPILEPTICS AND SPASTICS

The following is the known position so far as epileptics are concerned in Gateshead.

There are 6 known epileptics among the pre-school children.

Among the school children there are 2 epileptics having special education in a residential school and 16 who are attending ordinary school. One epileptic is not attending any school and one has home teaching. There are 3 epileptic mentally defective children, all ineducable, who are not at school at all.

So far as adolescents and adults are concerned, it appears that 40 males and 15 females are registered as disabled epileptic persons, a total of 55. Of this total 9 men and 2 women only are unemployed, 3 are employed at the Remploi Factory. The remainder are presumed to be in ordinary occupations.

The position in regard to "spastic" persons is that in the pre-school population, there are 8 known cases.

Among the school population 20 are known and 12 are having education in the "Cedars" Special School. 4 are having education in the Percy Hedley School and 4 attend ordinary school.

"Spastics" in the adult population are apparently not catered for. There are 14 such persons known to the Ministry of Labour Resettlement Officer, (4 males and 10 females). 2 males and 7 females are unemployed, one is employed full time and 1 is employed at the Remploi Factory.

### D. PHARMACY AND POISONS ACT, 1933

13 persons were registered for the sale of poisons listed in Part II of the Poisons List, and these were supervised on behalf of the Council by the Pharmaceutical Society's Inspector. In another case the Inspector found that poisons were being sold without a licence, but application was made later for a licence and this brought up the total persons registered to 14.

## E. SUPERANNUATION ACTS

44 persons (19 males and 25 females), were examined for new appointments with the Gateshead Local Authority. One male was examined by his own authority in connection with his appointment to a post with Gateshead Corporation. One male and one female were examined on behalf of other authorities.

Under the modified scheme for manual workers employed by the Local Authority, 159 persons were examined (117 males and 42 females).

Eight people were examined after application by them to be retired on the grounds of ill-health and 4 were examined after various periods of sickness, to ascertain their fitness to continue at work.

**PART V****SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA****Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector****G. Charlton**

The work of the department has been carried out in a resolute and progressive manner during the year, although the results obtained were rather disappointing in one aspect.

Disappointment was experienced, following a considerable amount of work in connection with the clearance of unfit houses, through the inability to rehouse the tenants and thus allow demolition to proceed.

However, public health workers have long since learned that patience is one of the virtues they must possess as their efforts rarely produce immediate effects or improvements.

Towards the end of the year it became obvious that work on the clearance programme would have to be curtailed until the housing situation had improved. It is expected that every effort will be made to speed up the building of new houses to cope with the increasing demands of the clearance programme.

Satisfaction, however, was gained from efforts under the Clean Air Act and by the end of the year, the results from the atmospheric pollution recording instrument showed that a slight improvement in the condition of the atmosphere had been accomplished. There is no doubt that this achievement was mainly due to the coming into operation on the 1st November, 1960, of the first two smoke control orders.

The full advantage of this work will not materialise for many years but it is gratifying to know that even a small improvement can benefit the whole community.

Unfortunately, due to a further depletion of staff, it was not possible to give the attention one would like to food shops, the sampling of food and drugs and a number of the less important but statutory duties.

The senior inspector responsible for the sampling of food and drugs left in August to take up a new appointment and in September a district inspector left to work in an adjoining authority. The latter vacancy was advertised but failed to attract any applicants.

It is sincerely hoped that the time is not very far distant when a full staff can be acquired and retained, so that the duties of the department can be given full and continuous attention.

I am pleased to report that in spite of the shortage the work was carried out in an efficient manner by the existing staff, who have borne the extra burden and responsibilities without complaint.

Further new legislation came into force during the year, the most important being the Public Health Act, 1961.



This Act gives new powers to deal with choked and defective drains, ruinous, dilapidated, defective, filthy and verminous premises, and nuisance, annoyance or damage caused by the congregation in built-up areas of house doves, pigeons, starling or sparrows

The Act also defined the expression "refreshment house" as used in Section 89 of the 1936 Act, to mean any building in which food or drink is sold to and consumed by the public. A local authority can now require the provision of sanitary accommodation for the use of persons frequenting cafes, restaurants and snack bars.

The Housing Act, 1961, which was awaited with great interest, in view of the promised changes in the legislation relating to houses let in multi-occupation, came into force on the 24th November, 1961.

New regulations are to be made prescribing a strict code of management to apply to houses in need of improvement.

In the case of houses which are reasonably well managed but lack certain amenities, the local authority can serve notices requiring specified works and execute such works in default.

A local authority is also given power to require the reduction of the number of persons living in a multi-occupied house.

Although the problem arising from multi-occupation is not very acute in this town, it is hoped that an improvement will be brought about by the implementation of the new powers.

In conclusion, I should like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their help and guidance during the year and to Dr. Grant for his support and co-operation.

## A. WATER SUPPLY

An adequate supply of pure, wholesome water was again maintained throughout the year by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

The sources of supply are a large catchment area and reservoirs in Northumberland and the River Tyne.

After receiving filtration and chlorination treatment, the water is distributed to part of the town directly from mains and also pumped into two service reservoirs at Beacon Lough and Carr Hill, which supply the higher areas of the Borough.

The Water Company's statements as to the quantity of water in store each month show :—

Maximum of 5,365 million gallons in January.

Minimum of 2,744 million gallons in September.

Average monthly amount in store 3,829 million gallons.

The monthly average of 3,829 million gallons in store shows a decrease of approximately 14 per cent upon the reserves recorded in the previous year.

During the year 10 samples of water were submitted for chemical analysis and 12 for bacteriological examination.

All 10 samples submitted for chemical analysis were reported as satisfactory, but two of the samples submitted for bacteriological examination were reported as unsatisfactory.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company were notified in each case and check samples were taken and reported as satisfactory.

The following is the report upon the sample taken in September, when the reserves were at their lowest level of the year.

#### REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ANALYST

<i>Chemical Results</i>	<i>Parts per Million</i>
Total Solids dried at 180°C. . . . .	180
Chlorine as chlorides . . . . .	11
Free Ammonia . . . . .	Trace
Albuminoid ammonia . . . . .	0.12
Nitrogen as nitrates . . . . .	0.20
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 27°C.) . . . . .	1.9
Total Hardness . . . . .	117
Non-carbonate hardness . . . . .	56
Carbonate hardness . . . . .	61
Lead and Copper . . . . .	None
Iron . . . . .	None
Appearance and Colour (hazen degrees 10) . . . . .	Clear and exceedingly pale yellow
Smell and taste . . . . .	Satisfactory
Microscopical Examination of deposit . . . . .	Satisfactory
PH value . . . . .	7.0

#### REPORT

This sample of water is typical of the water supply of Gateshead and it is of satisfactory organic purity. It is practically colourless and is free from odour or taste.

I am of the opinion that the water is suitable for a public supply.

(Signed) W. GORDON CAREY.

## B. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The arrangements generally for sewerage throughout the district are adequate but subject to review, expansion and extension as required.

In regard to sewage disposal, the only method at present is that of disposal into the River Tyne. The whole matter of sewage disposal is being dealt with on a regional basis by the Tyneside Sewage Disposal Committee.

New sewerage schemes are being instituted for the Beacon Lough area and also for the Harlow Green area with a review of the whole sewerage position of the Southern portion of the Borough. No sewage disposal works are envisaged at the moment,



## C. PUBLIC CLEANSING

The following report upon the work of the Cleansing Department for the year is kindly supplied by Mr. L. Collins, M.INST.P.C., A.M.I.T.A., A.R.S.H.

“In addition to the maintenance of transport owned by the Corporation, the Transport & Cleansing Department is responsible for such environmental health services as Refuse Collection and Disposal, Street Cleansing and the servicing of Public Conveniences. The following is a summary of their activities in these fields during the period under review :

### 1. Refuse Collection

Throughout the year, a regular weekly service has been provided for dwelling houses, a thrice weekly service for Multi-storey flats, and service as required for business premises in the town.

This entailed approximately 2,000,000 visits to premises by the Transport and Cleansing Department's refuse collection personnel.

The recorded tonnage of house and trade refuse collected is 41,617 tons.

There are approximately 40,000 dust bins in use in the Borough, and during the year a total of 891 defective bins were replaced with British Standard Specification  $2\frac{1}{2}$  cu. ft. capacity bins from the Department's Stores.

In all, there are 20 vehicles operating on the work of refuse collection, 18 of which are manned by a team of four men, and 2 by a team of two men, excluding the vehicle driver in both cases. Each team operates in a defined area of the Borough.

The four man teams operate on the normal dust bin collection service and the two man teams are engaged on the collection of Bulk Containers from business premises on the Team Valley Trading Estate, and the Corporation's Multi-storey flats.

The average number of bins collected per 4 man team per week is 2,220.

During the period under review, four new refuse collection vehicles were purchased, one of which will serve the dual purpose of dustbin and container collection. These vehicles were obtained as replacements for four of the Department's oldest vehicles.

### 2. Refuse Disposal

The recorded tonnage of refuse disposed of is as follows :—

Location	<i>Street Sweepings and House &amp; Trade</i>		
	<i>Gully Contents</i>	<i>Refuse</i>	<i>Totals</i>
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Farnacres Tip.. ..	1,420	14,323	15,743
Pyburn Lane Tip .. ..	1,487	5,029	6,516
Urpeth Tip .. ..	524	11,244	11,768
Grey Mares Tip .. ..	1,283	11,021	12,304
	<u>4,714</u>	<u>41,617</u>	<u>46,331</u>



Materials salvaged from the refuse collected amounted to 303 tons, valued at £2,811.

During the year it was found necessary to replace one of the machines operating on refuse disposal work, and a new Mechanical Shovel was purchased.

The tipping site at Grey Mares Quarry, Eighton Banks, was opened in June last, and rapid progress has been made with this land reclamation scheme during the recent Winter months when all the refuse from the Borough was channelled to this particular site.

### 3. *Street Cleansing*

The work of regularly cleansing the 150 street miles of the Borough is performed by 45 men, variously equipped with Orderly Barrows, Pedestrian Controlled Trucks, Mechanical Sweeper/Collectors, Gully Emptiers, and Refuse Collection type transport.

The town centre area is continuously cleaned each working day, and the remaining throughfares in the Borough are cleansed according to usage by pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

During the year, the oldest Gully Emptying machine was replaced by a new vehicle, and the chassis of the old machine converted to carry a Bulk Gritting body. This new Gritter thus obtained has proved to be a boon to the street cleansing service in regard to snow melting and frost precautionary measures.

### 4. *Public Conveniences*

The daily servicing of the 30 Public Conveniences located in the Borough was carried out during the year by 2 male driver/attendants, and 2 female attendants, provided with a light van.

The larger Conveniences in the town centre area were cleansed twice daily, and those located in the suburbs were cleaned once daily.

Paper towel vending machines and litter bins were installed in the Conveniences where the need for these facilities was greatest.

Washrooms at Public Conveniences are now available from early morning to late night".

## D. PUBLIC BATHS

The following report with respect to the facilities available as public swimming baths and warm baths, is kindly provided by the Baths Manager, Mr. I. D. Wright.

"The Gateshead Baths Department is comprised of two establishments, Mulgrave Terrace Baths, opened in 1890, and Shipcote Baths, opened in 1942. Each of these has a swimming pool of the following dimensions and capacity :—

	<i>Size</i>	<i>Depth</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Capacity</i>
Mulgrave Terrace ..	81' 0" x 30' 0"	3' 3"—5' 6"	270 sq. yds	60,000 galls.
Shipcote ..	100' 0" x 40' 0"	3' 6"—8' 6"	440 sq. yds.	140,000 galls.

At Mulgrave Terrace Baths there is also a suite of 25 warm baths which, as the figures below indicate, are well used.

The water in the swimming pool is purified by recirculation through sand/gravel pressure filters. The Break Point Chlorination Process is employed to sterilise the water in which a free chlorine residual of between 1.0 and 2.0 parts per million is maintained. The free chlorine forms at least 75% of the total chlorine residual.

Both swimming pools are heated by steam fed calorifiers and pool temperatures are maintained at 78°F. and 75°F. in winter and summer respectively.

Admissions to the two establishments were as follows :—

		<i>Year ending 31st March, 1962</i>		<i>Year ending 31st March, 1961</i>	
		<i>Swimming Bath</i>	<i>Warm Bath</i>	<i>Swimming Bath</i>	<i>Warm Baths</i>
Shipcote .. ..	100,245	—	112,940	—	
Mulgrave Terrace ..	46,283	26,633	50,135	28,925	
	146,528	26,633	163,075	28,925	

Attendances, generally, show a decrease on last years figures due to closure of the baths (Shipcote 7 weeks, Mulgrave 2 weeks) for structural repairs and redecoration.

The particularly poor summer of 1961 also affected the attendances.

### *Swimming Bath Water*

Fifteen samples of water were taken from the two swimming baths and submitted for bacteriological examination.

Seven samples from the Mulgrave Terrace Baths were all reported as being free from coliform bacilli, but one of the eight samples taken from Shipcote Baths contained one coliform bacillus per 100 ml. A check sample taken a few days later was reported as satisfactory.

## **E. HOUSING**

The total number of new houses provided during 1961 was 212 and of these 206 were provided by the North Eastern Housing Association and were built outside the Borough boundaries.

This number is far short of last year's total of 303 which was then the lowest number built since 1954. However, those houses provided, together with those which became available for re-letting, accommodated 196 families from clearance areas, 36 families from dwellings subject to individual closing or demolition orders and 92 families from the general needs list.



Housing accommodation provided since 1945 and during 1961 is shown in the following table.

1.	Houses provided 1945—1960 inclusive				
	(a) Built in Gateshead by Local Authority ..	4,415			
	(b) Built outside Gateshead by Local Authority	480			
	(c) Provided by Felling Urban District Council	1,053			
					5,948
	(d) Provided by North Eastern Housing Association :				
	In Gateshead .. .. .	24			
	Outside Gateshead .. .. .	211			
					235
					6,183
2.	Houses provided during 1961				
	(a) Built in Gateshead by Local Authority ..	6			
	(b) Built outside Gateshead by Local Authority	—			
	(c) Provided by Felling Urban District Council	—			
					6
	(d) Provided by North Eastern Housing Association :				
	In Gateshead .. .. .	—			
	Outside Gateshead .. .. .	206			
					206
	Total for 1961 .. .. .				212
	Total for 1945 to 1961 inclusive ..				6,395

Of the total of 6,395 houses provided since 1945, 4,445 were built inside the Borough and 1,950 were built outside.

## Overcrowding

There are approximately 7,500 applicants for houses on the general needs list and, in an attempt to assess the number actually in overcrowded conditions, the list of applicants has been examined, having due regard to the number of points awarded in each case. It was found that there were about 800 applicants requiring two-bedroom accommodation with 13 points and over, a similar number of applicants for three-bedroom houses with 18 points and over. All 150 applicants for four-bedroom houses were counted as being overcrowded.

Applications for a single persons dwellings, which amounted to 950, were reduced to 40% of that number and the same was applied to applications for aged persons accommodation.

The result of this examination of the list indicates that there are approximately 2,500 applicants in genuinely overcrowded conditions out of the 7,500 on the list.

There is no doubt that a considerable proportion of this 2,500 overcrowded families are now living in areas scheduled for clearance, as



the majority of the houses in these areas are two-roomed and three-roomed dwellings. In the three-roomed dwellings it is usual to find that one room is very small and fit only for  $\frac{1}{2}$  unit.

## Unfit Housing

### (a) Clearance Areas

Orders were confirmed in respect of two areas during the year. The areas concerned are as follows :—

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Families</i>
Teams No. 1 C.P.O. .. .. .	168	165
Wylam No. 1 C.P.O. .. .. .	231	238
	<u>399</u>	<u>403</u>

Public enquiries were held dealing with the following six areas and in all cases confirmation was awaited at the end of the year.

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Families</i>
Tinn Street and Prospect Terrace ..	50	53
Liddell Terrace and Rawling Road ..	36	44
Bensham Road .. .. .	13	21
Walker Street .. .. .	14	14
Derwentwater Road No. 1 and No. 2 ..	16	14
	<u>129</u>	<u>146</u>

Two areas which were represented during 1960 were prepared and waiting enquiry at the end of 1961, these areas are :—

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Families</i>
St. Cuthberts Road .. .. .	417	393
Askew Road .. .. .	76	74
	<u>493</u>	<u>467</u>

The following three areas were represented as clearance areas during 1961 and were awaiting an enquiry at the end of the year:

	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Families</i>
Forster's Cottages, Wrekenton .. ..	9	8
St. James Square, Nos. 1 and 2 .. ..	18	18
Sunderland Street .. .. .	51	51
	<u>78</u>	<u>77</u>

A summary of the foregoing shows that a total of 1,099 houses and 1,093 families were included in areas which were either confirmed during the year or represented and awaiting confirmation at the end of 1961.

To keep an accurate record of families re-accommodated presents some difficulty, in that it is not always possible to maintain a current record of families who, for various reasons, vacate houses in clearance

areas, and who are not rehoused by the local authority. Occasional checks and corrections of figures must therefore be made.

During 1961 families rehoused from clearance areas by the local authority totalled 196 and at the end of the year 284 families still remained in confirmed clearance areas, and a further 690 in areas awaiting confirmation.

### (b) *Individual Unfit Houses*

Demolition or closing orders were applied to 28 houses, occupied by 30 families and during the year 36 families were rehoused from properties so treated.

After completing a check on the records, it was found that a number of families, originally occupying houses to which orders had been applied, had vacated the premises and had not been rehoused by the local authority, and that at the end of the year there were 10 families still living in houses to which orders applied.

This is the lowest number recorded in this respect since 1945 since when 911 families have vacated houses subject to individual orders, 887 of which have been rehoused by, or with the arrangements of, the local authority.

## Demolition of Unfit Properties

The following table gives an account of the dwellings demolished and the families displaced therefrom, as reported quarterly to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

	<i>Dwellings Demolished</i>	<i>Families Rehoused</i>
Houses included in Clearance Areas .. .. .	175	196
Houses not in clearance areas		
(a) Houses demolished under Section 17 Housing Act, 1957 .. .. .	39	14
(b) Unfit houses closed, Sections 16 and 17 .. .. .	10	14
(c) Parts of buildings closed, Section 18 .. .. .	8	8

## Rent Act, 1957

14 applications for a certificate of disrepair were received during 1961, this being eight fewer than the number received during 1960, and compared with 170 in 1958 and 45 in 1959, it would appear that interest in the benefits afforded by the Rent Act has almost vanished.

Other factors are present which tend to reduce the number of applicants, one being that the majority of landlords are more active in complying with the reports of defects, another is that many of the old houses which required the greatest attention have now been cleared. More houses are becoming decontrolled and, in some instances, tenants just do not make the effort. This may also affect the number of applications.

The following table shows the action taken in respect of the applications made.

<i>Certificate of Disrepair</i>	<i>Total at 31.12.60</i>	<i>Total 1961</i>	<i>Totals at 31.12.61</i>
Applications received .. .. .	378	14	392
Applications outstanding from 1960 ..	—	1	—
		15	
Undertakings from Landlord (Form K) ..	263	10	
Work completed before expiry of Form J	22	—	
Certificates issued .. .. .	76	3	
Decisions not to issue certificates ..	17	2	
	378	15	
Application for cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair .. .. .	25	1	26
Certificates cancelled or invalidated ..	27	1	28

#### **Rent Act, 1954**

Certificates outstanding 31.12.60 .. .. .	23
Certificates cancelled .. .. .	Nil
Certificates outstanding 31.12.61 .. .. .	23

## **F. SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA**

In spite of the shortage of staff the essential duties of the department were well maintained throughout the year.

Fortunately, no major outbreaks of infectious disease or food poisoning occurred requiring the inspector's attention, as this was fully occupied in other directions.

Meat inspection at the slaughterhouse now claims about 50 per cent of one inspector's time. Another inspector spends practically two days every week at the Auction Mart, Redheugh Bridge Road. Food and Drugs sampling has to be carried out by an inspector already fully occupied on a densely populated district.

Meanwhile the housing and smoke abatement programmes are kept going but any stepping up of either scheme would necessitate additional staff being employed.

It will be seen from the details of the works carried out under the various Acts and Regulations that a wide variety of duties have been administered, in the best possible manner, by the staff available.

## **2. Complaints received and dealt with during the year**

Of the complaints received

- 764 related to general matters.
- 485 related to absence of water supply to houses.
- 429 related to infestation by rodents.
- 34 related to defective or absence of dustbins.

The total of 1,712 complaints were dealt with appropriately.



### 3. Statement of notices issued and complied with

The following table shows the number of notices served upon the owners, agents and tenants, requiring the abatement of nuisances and repairs to dwellings, drains, sanitary conveniences and the provision of dustbins, from the year 1945 to the end of 1961.

	<i>Total from 1945 to end of 1960</i>	<i>Total for the year 1961</i>	<i>Total to 31st Dec., 1961</i>
INFORMAL NOTICES			
<i>Housing, Public Health and Corporation Acts</i>			
No. of notices issued .. .. .	23,430	475	23,905
No. of notices outstanding from previous year	—	247	—
No. of notices complied with .. .. .	20,587	462	21,049
No. of notices superceded by statutory action	2,061	50	2,111
No. of notices cancelled .. .. .	562	19	581
No. of notices outstanding at end of year ..	220	—	164
STATUTORY NOTICES			
<i>Housing Acts 1936-57, Section 9</i>			
No. of notices served .. .. .	1,982	12	1,994
No. of notices outstanding from previous year	—	15	—
No. of notices complied with or carried out in default .. .. .	1,966	10	1,976
No. of notices cancelled .. .. .	13	—	13
No. of notices outstanding at end of year ..	15	—	13
No. of notices passed to Borough Surveyor under Section 10 .. .. .	1,071	10	1,081
STATUTORY NOTICES			
<i>Public Health Act, 1936, Sections 39, 45, 83, 89 and 93</i>			
No. of notices served .. .. .	238	7	245
No. of notices outstanding from previous year	—	6	—
No. of notices complied with .. .. .	204	5	209
No. of notices cancelled .. .. .	28	1	29
No. of notices outstanding .. .. .	6	1	7
STATUTORY NOTICES			
<i>Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75—Dustbins</i>			
No. of notices served .. .. .	1,528	32	1,560
No. of notices outstanding from previous year	—	2	—
No. of notices complied with by owner ..	982	15	997
Statutory action taken in default by Corporation	544	13	557
No. of notices outstanding at end of year ..	—	—	6

### 4. Summary of Inspectors' Visits and Inspections

<i>Public Health Act</i>				
Infectious Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	230
Nuisances .. .. .	..	..	..	315
Water Supplies .. .. .	..	..	..	223
Drainage .. .. .	..	..	..	534
Stables and Piggeries .. .. .	..	..	..	108
Offensive Trades .. .. .	..	..	..	66
Tents, Vans and Sheds .. .. .	..	..	..	39
Refuse Disposal .. .. .	..	..	..	244
Infested Premises .. .. .	..	..	..	136
Public Conveniences .. .. .	..	..	..	24

*Public Health Act*

Schools .. .. .	55
Places of Public Entertainment .. ..	70
Public Houses (Section 89) .. ..	8
Miscellaneous .. .. .	448
	<hr/> 2,500

*Housing Acts*

Closing and Demolition Orders .. ..	349
Slum Clearance .. .. .	1,762
Overcrowding .. .. .	67
Repairs and Rents Act .. .. .	283
Defects and repairs .. .. .	2,636
Houses let in lodgings .. .. .	103
	<hr/> 5,200

*Food and Drugs Act*

Meat Inspection .. .. .	436
Food Inspection .. .. .	118
Shops .. .. .	772
Stalls and Vehicles .. .. .	36
Restaurants .. .. .	86
Fish Fryers .. .. .	87
Dairies and Milk Shops .. .. .	243
Ice Cream Shops and Factories .. ..	182
Food factories .. .. .	231
Public Houses .. .. .	45
Knackers Yard .. .. .	6
Food Sampling .. .. .	271
Food Poisoning .. .. .	254
Slaughterhouse .. .. .	292
	<hr/> 3,059

*Factories Act*

Factories .. .. .	617
Outworkers .. .. .	106
	<hr/> 723

Clean Air Act .. .. .	1,655
Merchandise Marks Act .. .. .	7
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act ..	3
Rag Flock, etc., Act .. .. .	17
Pet Animals Act .. .. .	8
Shops Act .. .. .	254
Diseases of Animals Act .. .. .	413
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act ..	302
	<hr/> 2,659

*Total Inspections* 14,141

*Total Visits* .. 13,268

**5. Notifiable Infectious Diseases**

Visits were made on 230 occasions to houses for the purpose of investigating cases of infectious diseases, notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and reports as to the conditions were made thereon.

**6. Offensive Trades and Knacker's Yard**

The following offensive trades, duly authorised for such purpose, are operating in the town.

- 1 Edible Fat and Tallow Melter
- 1 Fat Melter
- 1 Hide and Skin Depot
- 3 Marine Store Dealers

66 visits were made to these premises to ensure they were maintained in a satisfactory condition.

Special attention was given to the premises on South Shore Road, used for fat melting and the processing of waste organic material.

Work on improving the premises and plant continued throughout the year and a new system of condensing the fumes was introduced and this proved to be a more effective method of reducing the obnoxious odour.

A further digester is to be put into use to enable all material received for processing to be dealt with each day. and to cope with any emergency.

The licensed knacker's yard at Blackwall, South Shore Road, was kept under regular supervision and found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

The number of animals and carcasses disposed of during the year was :—

150 horses and ponies

285 cows

158 other bovine animals

2 pigs

## **7. Factories Act, 1937 and 1948**

The Register of Factories, required to be kept by the District Council in accordance with Section (8) 3 of the Act of 1937, has been revised after comparison with the lists of factories kept by H.M. Inspector of Factories, and shows a total of 458 factories in the Borough at the end of the year, of which 422 are factories in which mechanical power is used and 16 are factories in which mechanical power is not used. There are also 20 other premises used as warehouses, etc., in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.

Defects and contraventions found during the course of inspections were readily remedied by the factory occupiers upon their attention being drawn to such and in 42 cases written notices were sent to occupiers.

Notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of 7 factories in the Borough, relating to matters requiring the attention of the District Council under the provisions of Part I of the Act of 1937, received attention with satisfactory results.

The particulars required by Section 128 (3) of the Act of the 1937 to be reported with respect to matters under Part I and Part VIII of the Act, which are administered by the District Council and prescribed by Form 572 of the Ministry of Labour and National Service are shown in the table below,



(1) *Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health*

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	<i>Occupiers Prosecution</i>
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authority .. .. .	16	14	4	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority .. .. .	422	585	36	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority ..	20	18	2	—
<i>Total</i> .. .. .	458	617	42	—

(2) *Cases in which defects were found*

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found</i>			
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>	
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>
Want of Cleanliness .. .. .	1	1	—	—
Overcrowding .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatures .. .. .	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation .. .. .	1	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	2	1	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	76	60	—	4
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	3	2	—	2
	83	64	—	7

There were no cases in which prosecutions were instituted.

*Outworkers—Part VIII of the Act, Sections 110 and 111*

16 outworkers were notified as being employed by the occupiers of 6 factories in the Borough.

The names and places of employment of 57 outworkers within this district, employed by the occupiers of 7 factories outside the Borough were notified by 3 councils of other districts.

There were 53 outworkers on the register for the earlier part of the year and 37 for the latter part of the year.

The places of employment of all outworkers, which were in all cases their homes, were visited and no contraventions of this part of the Act were found.

## 8. Shops Act, 1950

254 visits were made to shops under the above Act and only one instance of non-compliance noted.

Additional sanitary accommodation was provided at the shop in question to meet the requirements of the Act.

## 9. Places of Public Entertainment

During the year 70 visits were made to places of public entertainment to verify the state of the premises prior to the issuing of certificates as to sanitary condition for the annual licensing.

Attention was paid to the sanitary conveniences, ventilation and lighting, the refuse disposal and the general cleanliness, and it is always disturbing to observe the amount of wilful damage perpetrated in these premises.

It would appear that many patrons imagine the accommodation is provided for their savage amusement rather than for their use and convenience.

Fortunately the management are usually most anxious to keep the premises in order and carry out any repairs without delay.

## 10. Atmospheric Pollution

### *Measurement of Pollution*

At the beginning of the year there were 2 deposit gauges, 2 lead peroxide instruments and 1 daily volumetric recording machine in operation, for the purpose of measuring the quantity of pollution in the atmosphere.

Following the receipt of a circular from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in March, recommending that the deposit gauges and lead peroxide instruments were only useful for monitoring local sources of pollution, it was decided to discontinue taking measurements with this apparatus and obtain another daily volumetric machine.

The second machine was received in June and was sited for a time at the Priory Court Flats, in an attempt to find the cause of the deterioration of the tiled panels on the front of the buildings.

The results obtained were similar to those recorded at Nelson Street and gave no indication of excessive pollution likely to cause damage to tiles.

It was encouraging to find an improvement in the recordings at Nelson Street, following the coming into operation of the two smoke control orders. It is not expected that the areas involved will become free from pollution, due to their close proximity to the industry of the town, but it is gratifying to find even a slight improvement.

The following table shows the trend of the pollution as compared with 1960.

All measurements are in microgrammes per cubic meter

					<i>Smoke</i>		<i>Sulphur Dioxide</i>	
					1960	1961	1960	1961
January	..	..	..	..	440	410	460	292
February	..	..	..	..	390	350	360	260
March	..	..	..	..	250	301	170	306
April	..	..	..	..	260	223	210	198
May	..	..	..	..	248	291	180	190
June	..	..	..	..	185	195	160	170
July	..	..	..	..	240	189	150	162
August	..	..	..	..	240	191	140	166
September	..	..	..	..	240	177	170	185
October	..	..	..	..	330	149	177	168
November	..	..	..	..	500	285	345	294
Daily average up to November					302	251	229	217

No results were obtained for December due to a breakdown in the apparatus.

### *Smoke Control Areas*

Gateshead (Central) No. 3 Smoke Control Order was confirmed by the Minister on the 30th June, 1961. The area contains 22 industrial premises, 166 commercial premises, 230 dwelling houses and 23 other premises and covers an area of 38.14 acres.

The following is a summary of the works carried out to comply with the Order.

Adaptations to fireplaces (dwelling houses)	..	20
Adaptations carried out at premises other than dwelling houses :—		
Electric fires provided	.. ..	5
Gas fires provided	.. ..	22
Gas ignition provided to boiler stoves	..	24
Oil heaters	.. ..	2

Two hand-fired Lancashire boilers at one factory, using approximately 500 tons of coal per year, were adapted for coke burning.

A survey of the Gateshead (Wylam) No. 4 Proposed Smoke Control Area was carried out during the year. The area contains 1 industrial premise, 57 commercial premises, 326 dwelling houses and 10 other premises, within an area of 24 acres. Of the 326 dwellings, 66 require conversion and 238 are scheduled for clearance.

### *Clean Air Act, 1956*

Under Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, notices of intention to install new furnaces in industrial and other premises were received in respect of :—

4 boilers with underfeed stokers
8 boilers hand-fired using coke
17 boilers with oil-fired furnaces
1 Steam generator oil-fired



## G. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk and Dairies

#### Milk Supply

A satisfactory and plentiful supply of milk was provided throughout the year by the numerous dairies operating in the town.

Although most of the milk is now from bulked supplies, there were still two small producers retailing tuberculin tested milk in the Borough.

Regular samples from the various dairies and supplies were taken during the year but the majority of samples taken for chemical analysis were of farm supplies in course of delivery to the two pasteurising plants.

The following table shows the various sources of distribution of milk in the town.

#### Milk Retailers

Producer retailers from outside the Borough .. .. .	2
Retailers distributing from premises outside the Borough ..	8
Retailers distributing from premises within the Borough ..	9
Retailers from shops .. .. .	359
	<hr/>
	378
	<hr/>

#### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

The following new licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, and all dealers' licences are now valid for a period of five years from the 1st January, 1961.

Dealers' licences to retail sterilised milk .. .. .	359
Dealers' licences to retail pasteurised milk .. .. .	121
Dealers' licences to retail tuberculin tested milk .. .. .	84
Dealers' (Pasteurisers) licences .. .. .	2

#### Quality and Purity of Milk

75 samples of milk, 3 formal and 72 informal, were taken during the year for chemical analysis under the Food and Drugs Act and 3 informal samples were reported as deficient in fat content. Formal check samples were taken and reported as genuine.

The average fat content of the 75 samples was 3.74 % which indicates an improvement in the quality of the milk. The average content of non-fatty solids was 8.61 per cent, which compares favourably with that in other parts of the country.

The results of the samples submitted for bacteriological examination shows a slight increase in the number passing the prescribed tests. The percentage satisfying the test being 96.74 per cent, as compared with 94.48 per cent for the previous year.

The efficiency of the heat treatment plants is established by the fact that all the 106 samples submitted for the phosphatase test were satisfactory.

The following summary shows the total number of samples taken during the year and submitted for the prescribed tests under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960.

1. Methylene Blue Test .. .. .	117
2. Phosphatase Test .. .. .	106
3. Turbidity Test .. .. .	19
4. Animal Inoculation T.B. Test .. .. .	3
	<hr/>
	245
	<hr/>

## Results of Tests

<i>Class of Milk</i>	<i>Appropriate Test</i>	<i>No. Exam- ined</i>	<i>No. Satis- factory</i>	<i>No. Unsatis- factory</i>	<i>No. Invalid</i>	<i>% Satis- factory</i>
Pasteurised	Methylene Blue	53	48	5	—	96.23
	Phosphatase	53	53	—	—	100.00
School Milk (Pasteurised)	Methylene Blue	26	23	3	—	86.92
	Phosphatase	26	26	—	—	100.00
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	Methylene Blue	27	24	—	3	88.89
	Phosphatase	27	27	—	—	100.00
Sterilised	Turbidity	19	19	—	—	100.00
Tuberculin Tested	Methylene Blue	11	7	4	—	63.64
	Animal Inoculation T.B.	3	3	—	—	100.00
<i>Totals</i>		245	230	8	3	

## Milk Supply to Schools

The milk supplied to the schools is heat treated at the two large dairies in the Borough. Frequent samples of the two supplies were submitted for the prescribed tests and only 3 samples failed to satisfy the methylene blue test.

## Ice Cream

### *Bacteriological Examination*

60 samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue grading tests with the following results :—

Grade 1 .. .. .	32
Grade 2 .. .. .	7
Grade 3 .. .. .	6
Grade 4 .. .. .	15
	<hr/>
	60
	<hr/>

Of the 60 samples submitted for the test 41 were from small manufacturers retailing in the town.

Following the receipt of an unsatisfactory report in relation to ice cream manufactured in the town, samples were taken from the plant at each stage in the process of manufacture until the cause of the sample failing the test was ascertained.

The 21 unsatisfactory samples were dealt with in the following manner.

- (a) 12 from 2 manufacturers in the town by check sampling during manufacture.
- (b) 8 from a manufacturer outside the Borough by notifying the local authority concerned, and
- (c) 1 from a continuous extruder by advice to the firm concerned, regarding storage and handling of the product.

### Ice Cream Premises

Premises registered for the manufacture of ice-cream, at the beginning of the year .. .. .	4
Premises registered for the sale of ice-cream at the beginning of the year .. .. .	369
Premises added to register in 1961 .. .. .	14
Premises removed from register during the year .. .. .	2
	<hr/>
	385
	<hr/>

### Inspection of Unsound Food

During the year 151 certificates were issued in respect to 52 consignments of foodstuffs, weighing 4 tons : 9 cwts. : 1 qt. : 20 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs. and consisting of :—

Meat .. .. .	275 lbs.
Ham and bacon .. .. .	660 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Poultry and game .. .. .	225 lbs.
Tinned Goods .. .. .	8,563 lbs.
Groceries .. .. .	534 lbs.
Carton and Packet Goods .. .. .	529 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.
Preserves .. .. .	46 lbs.
Miscellaneous .. .. .	120 lbs.
	<hr/>
	11,016 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
	<hr/>

Total weight dealt with in 1960 — 4 tons : 6 cwts : 1 qt. : 6 $\frac{1}{4}$  lbs.

The practice of making a charge for the inspection of foodstuffs and for the issue of surrender certificates, under Section 98 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, was continued throughout the year and operated satisfactorily.

### Offences under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

The following offences under the Food and Drugs Act were reported during the year.

1. Selling a fish-cake containing a maggot.
2. Selling baking powder deficient in carbon dioxide.
3. Selling mouldy pork pies.
4. Selling mouldy sausage rolls.
5. Selling orange juice in a dirty bottle.
6. Selling pork sausage in a mouldy condition.
7. Selling a cake containing piece of glass.
8. Delivering a bottle of milk containing a purple dye.
9. Serving a meal containing an insect.



Legal proceedings were authorised to be taken in the following cases :

- (a) in respect to the mouldy pork pies, the defendants were fined £5 plus £7 17s. 0d. costs.
- (b) in respect to the mouldy sausage rolls, the defendants were fined £20 plus £3 9s. 0d. costs.
- (c) in respect to the cake containing a piece of glass, the defendants were fined £7 and £4 6s. 0d. costs.
- (d) in respect to the meal containing an insect, the defendants were fined £5 and ordered to pay £2 17s. 9d. costs.

Due to various circumstances the other offences were dealt with informally.

## Food Premises

(1) The following summary shows the number of food premises in the town and the principal trade carried on in each case, but it should be noted that in many cases other commodities are dealt with besides the principal trade.

Butchers	..	..	..	..	107
Bakeries	..	..	..	..	50
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	58
Wet Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	23
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	84
Grocers	..	..	..	..	113
General Dealers	..	..	..	..	351
Confectioners	..	..	..	..	141
Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars	..	..	..	..	30
Ice Cream Parlours	..	..	..	..	4
					<hr/> 961 <hr/>

(2) Food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Ice Cream (sale and manufacture)	..	385
Butchers (manufacture of sausage etc.)	..	48
Pork butchers (manufacture of sausage etc.)	..	9
Bakeries (manufacture of pies)	..	12
Preserved meat manufacturers	..	2
		<hr/> 456 <hr/>

(3) There are 4 dairies in the town registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations.

## (4) *Inspection of Food Premises*

During the year 1,682 visits were made to foodshops, cafes, restaurants, food factories and public houses and 36 inspections were made of vehicles used for the sale and transport of food.

Thirty-one notices were served upon the occupiers of premises for non-compliance with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations. All the works required by the notices were completed informally except in one case, where the occupier of a small bakery failed to comply with the requirements. This matter was reported to the Health Committee and legal proceedings were authorised.

The following table shows the matters dealt with during the year.

*Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960*

1. Premises cleansed, redecorated, walls, floors, ceilings, etc., repaired	49
2. Articles and equipment cleansed .. .. .	8
3. Steps taken to protect food from contamination .. .. .	11
4. Cleanliness of employees .. .. .	1
5. Drainage of food premises .. .. .	2
6. Sanitary conveniences, cleanliness, condition, lighting and ventilation .. .. .	19
7. Provision of handwashing notices in sanitary conveniences ..	26
8. Provision of washing facilities for staff .. .. .	23
9. Provision of washing facilities for food and equipment .. ..	4
10. Provision of first-aid materials .. .. .	11
11. Provision of accommodation for the storage of clothes .. ..	5
12. Removal of refuse and filth from food premises .. .. .	7
13. Provision of means to retain foods at prescribed temperatures ..	1
14. Provision of sufficient and suitable lighting in food rooms ..	1
15. Provision of sufficient and suitable ventilation in food rooms ..	1
16. Vehicles cleansed, repaired, etc. .. .. .	3

**Shops Act, 1950**

1. Additional sanitary conveniences provided or made suitable ..	1
--	---

**Food Sampling**

170 samples of milk and food were taken and submitted for analysis by the Public Analyst, of which 164 were reported as genuine and 6 as irregular.

<i>Samples</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Samples</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
FORMAL			
Milk .. .. .	3	Jam .. .. .	4
Ice Cream .. .. .	1	Ketchup .. .. .	1
Non-brewed condiment .. .. .	1	Lard .. .. .	1
INFORMAL		Lemonade powder .. .. .	1
Almond Icing .. .. .	1	Lemon Curd .. .. .	2
Beef Sausage .. .. .	1	Lemon Essence .. .. .	1
Beef Suet .. .. .	1	Lemon Juice .. .. .	1
Bread .. .. .	2	Lollipops .. .. .	2
Butter mints .. .. .	1	Meat Paste .. .. .	4
Cake decorations .. .. .	1	Mincemeat .. .. .	2
Chewing Gum .. .. .	1	Mixed Spice .. .. .	1
Chicken and Ham Croquettes ..	1	Mustard .. .. .	1
Chicken and Ham Spread ..	1	Orange Drink .. .. .	1
Cocoa .. .. .	2	Orange Squash .. .. .	2
Cognac sweets .. .. .	1	Pearl Barley .. .. .	2
Coloured pickled onions ..	1	Pepper .. .. .	2
Cream .. .. .	2	Pork Sausage .. .. .	5
Dressed Crab .. .. .	1	Raspberry Essence .. ..	1
Egg and Milk Caramels ..	1	Rice .. .. .	1
Evaporated Milk .. .. .	2	Sage .. .. .	1
Fish Cakes .. .. .	7	Salad Cream .. .. .	1
Fish dressing .. .. .	2	Salt .. .. .	1
Fish paste .. .. .	2	Soup .. .. .	1
Flour .. .. .	3	Stuffed Pork Roll .. ..	1
		Stuffing .. .. .	1
		Table Jelly .. .. .	1

<i>Samples</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Samples</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
Ginger Cordial .. ..	1	Tonic Water .. ..	1
Ginger Wine essence .. ..	1	Vinegar .. ..	2
Gold raising powder .. ..	1	Wheatmeal loaf .. ..	2
Ground almonds .. ..	1	Milk .. ..	72
Ground nutmeg .. ..	1		
Ice cream .. ..	7		

1. One informal sample of ice cream was found to be deficient in fat to the extent of 1.8%. Formal check sample proved to be satisfactory.
2. One informal sample of non-brewed condiment was submitted in error as vinegar and reported to be not genuine—containing only 3.8% acetic acid. A formal check sample was submitted and found satisfactory.
3. One sample of school milk, handed in to the Public Health Inspector's office, was found to contain a fragment of purple dye, probably originating from a child's paint box. The dairy concerned received a warning.
4. Three informal samples of milk were found to be deficient in milk fat to the extent of 3.3%, 6.66% and 13.3% respectively. Formal check samples in each case proved to be satisfactory.

## Slaughterhouses

During the year, 8,889 animals were slaughtered in the one slaughterhouse in the Borough and all the carcasses were examined by Inspectors of the Public Health Department.

Tuberculosis affected 281 pigs, or 3.3% of the number slaughtered, but in only two cases was it necessary to reject the entire carcass and offal. The disease was in the main confined to the sub-maxillary lymph glands, which entailed the condemnation of affected heads only.

Conditions other than tuberculosis affected one in every five of the pigs examined, pneumonia, arthritis and parasites being by far the most common diseases encountered.

Forty-two of the 69 carcasses of pork condemned covered the usual range of pathological conditions and diseases as under.

1 carcass	..	..	Jaundice
4 carcasses	..	..	Acute Pleurisy and Peritonitis
4 carcasses	..	..	Pyæmia
22 carcasses	..	..	Septicæmia
2 carcasses	..	..	Acute Enteritis
3 carcasses	..	..	Acute Swine Erysipelas
3 carcasses	..	..	Oedema and Emaciation
1 carcass	..	..	Decomposition
1 carcass	..	..	Imperfect Bleeding
1 carcass	..	..	Malignant Neoplasms

The remaining 27 carcasses of pork condemned were of some apparently healthy pigs which had been in contact with local outbreaks of swine fever and were moved under licence for slaughter.

The economic loss is considerable and shows the need for strict control of licensing of movement and markets and adequate isolation and disinfection ; in other words, of the implementation of the Diseases of Animals Act, 1950.



**Carcase and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part**

		<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	..	—	—	—	338	8,551	—
Number inspected	..	—	—	—	338	8,551	—
<i>All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned	..	—	—	—	10	69	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	..	—	—	—	9	1,611	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	..	—	—	—	5.6	19.6	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>							
Whole carcasses condemned	..	—	—	—	—	2	—
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	..	—	—	—	—	279	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	.. ..	—	—	—	—	3.3	—
<i>Cysticerosis</i>							
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

**H. OTHER MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES****1. Diseases of Animals Act, 1950**

The work involved in the operation of the Diseases of Animals Act and Orders was chiefly in connection with the livestock market at Redheugh Bridge Road and the pig keepers in the town.

Duties at the mart included the issue of the necessary movement licences and control of the cleansing and disinfection of the premises and vehicles used for the transport of animals.

The piggeries were visited regularly to verify compliance with the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order, 1957, the byelaws in respect to the keeping of animals and to ascertain if any pigs taken on to the premises were segregated for the required period.

*Livestock Market*

Due to restrictions under the Swine Fever Order, the mart was closed for the sale of store pigs from the 22nd April until the 5th October, 1961.

The sale of fat stock for immediate slaughter was, however, permitted and a total of 77 sales were held during the year.

All sales were attended by an inspector for the purpose of issuing licences and supervision of the cleansing of the mart and the vehicles.

The number of licences issued at the sales was 856 authorising the movement of 11,428 pigs.

The following statement shows the total number of animals which passed through the mart and official certification centre.

			<i>Fat Stock for Slaughter</i>	<i>Store Stock</i>
Cattle	..	..	15,871	—
Sheep	..	..	18,686	—
Calves	..	..	59	—
Pigs	..	..	7,609	3,819
Horses	..	..	—	197
			<hr/> 42,225 <hr/>	<hr/> 4,016 <hr/>

*Animals (landing from Channel Islands, Isle of Man, Northern Island or Republic of Ireland) Order, 1955*

No sales of freshly landed cattle under the above order were held during the year.

*Foot and Mouth Disease Order*

The restrictions on the movement of animals due to the Foot and Mouth Disease (Infected Area Restrictions) Order, 1938, ended on the 16th January, 1961, having been in force from the 9th November, 1960.

All necessary precautions were taken by the department to combat the spread of the disease.

Six movement licences were issued under the Order.

*Swine Fever Order*

No outbreak of Swine fever occurred in the Borough during the year, but the whole of Durham County was subject to restrictions for a long period.

The Swine Fever (Infected Areas) Special Order No. 6, which was made on the 7th November, 1960, was revoked on the 16th January, 1961.

As a result of further outbreaks, the Swine Fever (Infected Areas) Special Order No. 2 came into operation on the 22nd April, 1961 and declared the whole of Yorkshire and Durham to be an infected area.

This order, which prohibited the sale of swine except for immediate slaughter, remained in force until the 5th October, 1961,

### *Regulations of Movement of Swine Order, 1960*

The movements of swine under this Order were as follows :—

	<i>No. of Licences Issued</i>	<i>No. of Swine Moved</i>
Movement of Swine from Maughan's Auction Mart to premises outside the Borough ..	765	10,350
Movement of swine from Maughan's Auction Mart to premises within the Borough ..	91	1,078
Movement of swine to premises within the Borough received and checked .. ..	399	7,866

### *Transit of Animals Orders*

Regular supervision of the cleansing and disinfestation of road vehicles transporting animals to and from Maughan's Auction Mart was made at each sale.

It is estimated that approximately 24 vehicles are dealt with at each sale.

### *Live Poultry (Restrictions) Order, 1957*

Four licences were granted under this Order to Messrs. T. and I. Maughan and Company, Limited, to hold sales of poultry at the Auction Mart, Redheugh Bridge Road.

Eleven sales were held at which 2,607 poultry were entered and sold.

## **2. Disinfestation of Verminous Premises**

Details of the types of premises where disinfestation work has been carried out for various kinds of infestations, are indicated below and show a decrease on the previous year's work, due to the fact that only 41 removals to Council houses were dealt with, compared with 43 in 1960.

#### *Premises treated for cockroaches*

Council houses .. .. .	26
Private houses .. .. .	11
Hospitals .. .. .	28
Other premises .. .. .	4
	<hr/> 69

#### *Premises treated for bugs and other insects*

Council houses .. .. .	12
Private houses .. .. .	27
Other premises .. .. .	1
Welfare Services cases .. .. .	5
	<hr/> 55

#### *Furniture disinfested on removal*

To council houses .. .. .	41
	<hr/> 41
	<hr/> 165

## **3. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949**

The control of rodents in sewers and buildings and on open spaces



and farms was continued throughout the year by the two rodent operators under the direction of the public health inspectors.

In accordance with the recommendation of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Divisional Pests Officer, the bi-annual maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out using Warfarin bait. A special treatment was also made on the manholes where previous takes had been recorded.

Approximately 14 per cent of the manholes were found to be infested by rats in some degree, and indicates the need for continued attention to the sewerage system of the town.

The treatment of flushing shafts was also carried out, using the suspended bait method and 55 shafts were so treated.

The following table gives details of the various treatments and the results obtained.

<i>Treatment</i>	<i>Bait used</i>	<i>Manholes baited</i>	<i>Poison takes</i>
All sewers March to August .. ..	Warfarin and Oatmeal, Sugar and oil	672	85
Special treatment on manholes where previous takes were recorded ..	do.	110	22
All sewers October to December ..	do.	766	125

### *Rodent Control in Premises*

Of the 429 complaints of infestations of rodents in buildings received during the year, 180 premises were found to be infested with mice and 191 with rats, and 58 did not require treatment.

All premises were visited and treated by the rodent operators and in 10 cases the cause of the rat infestation was found to be due to defective drains. Appropriate action was taken in each case to have the drain repaired and the premises cleared of rodents.

The following table shows the number of infestations found and treatments carried out.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>Local Authority Premises</i>	<i>Dwelling houses</i>	<i>Business and other Premises</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Number of properties in local authority's district.. ..	127	33,606	3,642	37,375
1. Number of properties inspected as a result of :				
(a) Complaint .. ..	20	276	78	374
(b) Survey .. ..	1	12	42	55
2. Number of Infestations found by inspection of premises :				
(a) Rats .. ..	14	123	61	198
(b) Mice .. ..	6	127	31	164
Number of treatments of premises by rodent operators .. ..	21	262	95	378

*Rodent Control on lands and open spaces*

During the year the Rodent Operators made 218 visits to open spaces, riverside banks, farms and refuse tips to eradicate rats, and 15 poison takes were recorded.

*Special Survey of Industrial Premises*

A special survey of the industrial premises on the riverside was also carried out and infestations found at 4 of the 32 premises visited.

**Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951**

There are 14 premises registered and one building licensed in the Borough to use and store filling materials to which the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act applies.

During the year 17 visits were made to these premises, and four informal and one formal sample of materials were taken.

Of the 4 informal samples taken, two samples of felt and one of rag flock were reported as satisfactory, but a sample of Kapok failed to comply with the Regulations. A check formal sample of kapok also failed to comply with the Regulations, and a letter of warning was sent to the firm concerned.

**Pet Animals Act, 1951**

There are three licensed pet shops in the town and they were visited periodically and found to be maintained in compliance with the Act.

**Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926**

Two informal samples of fertilisers and one informal sample of feeding stuff were taken and submitted for chemical analysis.

All samples agreed within the limits of variation with the statements supplied by the manufacturers.

**Merchandise Marks Act**

Seven visits were made to shops with respect to the marking of goods under the above Act, and the traders concerned readily co-operated in these matters.

In practice this Act is administered during visits to shops under the Food Hygiene Regulations.

**Burial Act, 1857**

No action was necessary during the year.

# ANALYSIS OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO CAUSES, AGES, SEX AND WARDS DURING 1961

	Total	Males	Females	0—1 Yrs.	1—2 Yrs.	2—5 Yrs.	5—15 Yrs.	15—25 Yrs.	25—45 Yrs.	45—65 Yrs.	65—75 Yrs.	75 Yrs. & Over	Riverside	Claxton	Enfield	Low Fell	Wrekenton	Saltwell	Teams	Askew	Bensham	Claremont	Chandless	Shipcote	Deaths in Hospitals, etc.	Transferable Deaths	
																										In	Out
Certified .. .. .	1310	685	625	58	3	4	5	7	47	359	334	493	87	115	146	117	100	85	141	96	121	112	69	121	—	206	282
Uncertified .. .. .	7	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	4	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory .. .. .	7	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	4	2	1
2. Tuberculosis Other .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic Disease .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Meningitis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other Infective & Parasitic Diseases .. .. .	2	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .. .. .	36	13	23	—	—	—	—	—	3	13	9	11	2	3	2	4	4	1	4	1	5	5	—	5	22	2	9
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus .. .. .	82	68	14	—	—	—	—	—	4	45	24	9	7	8	12	9	8	3	3	4	6	11	3	8	36	19	11
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .. .. .	11	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	1	2	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	2	9	—	2
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .. .. .	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2	1	—	1	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	2	—	10	1	8	
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasm .. .. .	119	69	50	—	1	—	—	—	6	58	28	26	5	7	17	14	9	13	11	8	11	12	7	5	62	27	23
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia .. .. .	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
16. Diabetes .. .. .	12	5	7	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	5	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	3	1	2	—	3	7	1	1
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .. .. .	159	66	93	—	—	—	—	—	2	32	61	64	8	20	22	13	10	10	17	10	13	10	6	20	124	13	36
18. Coronary Disease, Angina .. .. .	208	110	98	—	—	—	—	—	4	74	71	59	11	17	31	15	19	16	18	14	22	20	11	14	93	31	48
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .. .. .	26	13	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	9	10	1	—	8	—	1	2	2	3	3	2	2	2	15	1	6
20. Other Heart Disease .. .. .	141	59	82	—	—	—	—	—	5	19	29	88	7	8	14	17	10	12	17	4	15	11	6	20	65	12	18
21. Other Circulatory Disease .. .. .	59	24	35	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	13	2	4	9	9	5	4	2	2	3	4	5	10	34	6	11
22. Influenza .. .. .	15	9	6	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	2	7	2	1	—	2	2	1	3	2	2	1	2	1	11	—	4
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	21	12	9	5	—	—	—	—	1	5	3	7	5	2	1	—	1	1	2	3	2	1	2	2	17	4	7
24. Broncho Pneumonia .. .. .	74	29	45	7	—	—	—	—	—	4	13	50	3	6	5	6	5	7	14	4	12	4	5	3	63	5	11
25. Bronchitis .. .. .	83	65	18	—	—	—	—	—	2	24	25	32	10	10	6	4	9	1	9	9	10	5	6	4	55	11	21
26. Other Diseases of Respiratory System .. .. .	27	14	13	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	2	19	1	4	3	4	2	—	3	3	1	2	1	3	26	2	11
27. Ulcer of Stomach, Duodenum .. .. .	13	7	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	1	5	1	1	1	2	—	1	1	2	1	1	—	2	14	—	3
28. Gastritis, Enteritis .. .. .	9	—	9	3	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	1	—	1	1	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	2	6	2	2
29. Diarrhoea .. .. .	2	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
30. Nephritis, Nephrosis .. .. .	7	3	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
31. Hyperplasia of Prostate .. .. .	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	—	2	5	2	1
32. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .. .. .	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	7	2	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	2	—	1	1	6	5	1
33. Congenital Malformations .. .. .	10	8	2	8	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
34. Premature Birth .. .. .	23	16	7	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	1	2	1	3	4	—	1	—	2	4	5	—
35. Other Defined & Ildefined Diseases .. .. .	93	37	56	9	1	1	1	1	6	18	20	37	8	11	7	8	7	3	15	10	4	12	3	5	54	24	17
36. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	15	14	1	—	1	2	1	1	2	3	5	2	13	2	1	1	1	3	7	—	2	5	2	1	11	8	5
37. All Other Accidents .. .. .	27	16	11	1	1	—	1	1	3	5	2	13	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	7	—	2	1	27	9	13	
38. Suicide .. .. .	13	9	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	2	—	5	—
39. Homicide & Operations of War .. .. .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1317	687	630	58	3	4	5	7	47	361	335	497	87	117	146	117	101	86	142	96	121	113	69	122	810	206	282



